

**Constitution of Sons of The American Legion
4th District attached to the
4th District, The American Legion,
Department of Minnesota.**

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 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 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, Fourth District, attached to The American Legion, 4th District, Department of Minnesota.

ARTICLE II - NATURE

Section 1. The Sons of The American Legion, 4th District, attached to The American Legion, 4th District, Department of Minnesota, is a civilian organization. Membership therein does not affect nor increase liability for military or police service.

Section 2. The District 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. The District 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 District is organized as a subordinate body of the Sons of The American Legion, Detachment of Minnesota and under the sponsorship and jurisdiction of 4th District, Department of Minnesota, The American Legion.

Section 2. This District 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 District of The American Legion, not inconsistent with those prescribed by the National Organization.

Section 3. All Squadrons chartered and certified by the Detachment of Minnesota and the Sons of The American Legion National Organization whose American Legion Post falls under the jurisdiction of the **4th** District shall be considered members of said District.

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 I, World War II, 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. There shall be no form or class of membership except an active membership.

ARTICLE V - OFFICERS

Section 1. The elected Officers of this District shall be a Commander, First Vice Commander, Second Vice Commander-

Section 1.1. The Commander shall appoint with the approval of the Executive Committee an Adjutant, Finance Officer, Sergeant-at-Arms, Chaplain, Judge Advocate, Historian.

Section 2. All Officers shall be elected annually at the Convention of the District. Said Officers shall serve for a period of one year or until their successors are duly installed. Only members holding current calendar year membership cards shall have the privilege of vote in said election.

ARTICLE VI - EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE

Section 1. Between District meetings, the administrative power of the District shall be vested in the District Executive Committee.

Section 2. The voting members shall consist of all elective District Officers, the immediate Past District Commander, the District Membership Director, the Squadron Commanders or the designated representative of the Squadron within the District. However, no voting member shall cast more than one vote at the District Meeting.

Section 3. All other Past District Commanders shall be members of the Executive Committee without vote.

Section 4. Only members in good standing will be privileged to participate in the business of a meeting, vote or hold office.

ARTICLE VII – DISCIPLINE

Section 1. A member of this District may only be disciplined in accordance with the Department of Minnesota.

Section 2. Any Officer may be removed or suspended for cause by a two-third (2/3) vote of the District Executive Committee, provided that the said officer shall have been served with a sworn statement of the complaint at least fifteen (15) days before the vote is to be taken and until such officer shall have the opportunity to be heard at the meeting called to take the vote, and shall be subject to appeal to the Detachment Executive Committee.

ARTICLE VIII – CONVENTION

Section 1. The District shall hold a least one (1) convention each year at the call of the District Commander, and such convention shall conform to the requirements of the Detachment Constitution.

Section 2. The exact time shall be fixed by the District Commander and be held at the same site as The American Legion *4th* District Convention.

Section 3. District Conventions shall be composed of (a) the District Commander and District Officers, none of whom shall be entitled to a vote unless duly elected as a delegate to the convention by his Squadron and (b) the duly elected delegates from each Squadron within the District.

Section 4. At the District Convention, each Squadron shall be entitled to one (1) Delegate, and one (1) Alternate Delegate for every ten (10) members, or major fraction thereof, provided such delegates and alternates shall be members of the Squadron electing them. Delegate strength shall be determined by membership turned in to the Detachment thirty (30) days prior to the opening of the District Convention

Section 5. Each Delegate shall be entitled to one (1) vote. The vote of any delegate absent and not represented by an alternate shall be cast by a majority of the delegates present from his Squadron and in the absence of all accredited delegates or alternates from a Squadron, then the vote or votes are forfeited. No voting member shall cast more than one (1) vote on any item at the Detachment Convention.

ARTICLE IX – BYLAWS

Section 1. This organization shall be governed according to the Bylaws adopted at conventions and said Bylaws are not to conflict with the provisions of this Constitution or the Constitution of the Detachment of Minnesota or the National Sons of The American Legion.

ARTICLE X – AMENDMENTS

Section 1. This Constitution is adopted, subject to the provision of the National Constitution and the Detachment constitution of which this District 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 District Meeting by vote of two-thirds of the members attending such regular meeting, provided, that the proposed amendment shall have been submitted in writing.