

**CONSTITUTION AND BY-LAWS
MISSOURI DIVISION
SONS OF CONFEDERATE VETERANS
AS AMENDED MARCH 25, 2023
AT INDEPENDENCE, MISSOURI**

ARTICLE 1 — TITLE

Section 1. This Confederation shall be known as the Missouri Division, Sons of Confederate Veterans.

ARTICLE II — OBJECT AND PURPOSES

Section 1. The Missouri Division, Sons of Confederate Veterans, shall be historical, fraternal, educational, charitable, benevolent, patriotic, non-political and non-sectarian in nature, and its purposes shall include but not be limited to the following:

- [a] Collecting and preserving manuscripts, books papers, documents, flags, relics and mementos relating to the War Between the States and the State of Missouri for the purpose of assisting in the preservation and perpetuation of the history of the same.
- [b] To illuminate and clarify the great constitutional, political, social and economic issues and events leading to the War, and the patriotic motives and heroism of our ancestors in the field, on the water, and in the governmental assemblies of the State of Missouri and the Confederate States of America.
- [c] To perpetuate the memory of the unparalleled bravery, constancy and fortitude of the Missouri Confederate soldier, sailor, governmental official or civilian by the erection, care and/or repair of monuments and memorial tablets, by properly marking and caring for the graves of Confederate soldiers, sailors, governmental officials and civilians and by conducting periodic memorial services in their honor.

ARTICLE III-ORGANIZATION

Section 1. The constituent bodies of the Missouri Division, Sons of Confederate Veterans shall be as follows:

- [a] Organizations of at least seven (7) dues-paid members, known as Camps, organized in the manner specified by the National Constitution and By-Laws of the Sons of Confederate Veterans; preference shall be given to the usage of Missouri names for such Camps, as well as to the utilization of pre-existing numbers of Missouri Camps which become inactive.
- [b] The Missouri Division, Sons of Confederate Veterans shall be geographically divided into three (3) Brigades consisting of the following:

- [1] Western Brigade, which shall include the:

Major General J.O. Shelby Camp #191 — Warrensburg, Missouri
General John T. Hughes Camp #614 — Independence, Missouri
General J. H. McBride Camp #632 — Springfield, Missouri
Colonel John T. Coffee Camp #1934 — Osceola, Missouri
Campbell's Company Camp #2252 — Republic, Missouri
Surgeon John Cravens Camp #2276 — Gallatin, Missouri
Major Thomas R. Livingston Camp #2327 — Carthage, Missouri

[2] Central Brigade, which shall include the:

Colonel Elijah Gates Camp #570 — Fulton, Missouri
General M. M. Parsons Camp #718 — Jefferson City, Missouri

[3] Eastern Brigade, which shall include the:

General Sterling Price Camp #145 — St. Louis, Missouri
Major James Morgan Utz Camp #1815 — Florissant, Missouri
Colonel Joseph Porter Camp #2055 — Shelbina, Missouri
General M. Jeff Thompson Camp #2277 — Farmington, Missouri
Stoddard Rangers Camp #2290 — Dexter, Missouri
Brigadier General Stand Watie Camp #2300 — St. Charles County, Missouri
Private Bailey Brooks Camp #2335 — Cooter, Missouri

[4] Additional Camps may be assigned to any Brigade upon recommendation of the Division Commander and approval by the Division Convention.

ARTICLE IV — MEMBERSHIP

Section 1. Membership in the Missouri Division, Sons of Confederate Veterans shall be membership in the General Confederation of the Sons of the Confederate Veterans by affiliation with a camp located within the State of Missouri.

Section 2. Censure, suspension, expulsion or other discipline of members shall be in accordance with the provisions of the National Constitution and By-Laws of the Sons of the Confederate Veterans.

ARTICLE V — MEETINGS

Section 1. The legislative body of the Missouri Division, Sons of Confederate Veterans, shall be the Division Convention, to be held annually at a time and place recommended by the Division Commander and approved by the Executive Council. Sixty (60) days written notices shall be given to each Camp, Brigade Commander, Division Officer and International Headquarters of such Division Convention.

Section 2. Special Division Conventions may be called or convened by the Division Commander, the Executive Council or by the Lieutenant Commander following written request of a majority of the Camps then in good standing.

Section 3. A quorum shall exist at a Division Convention when a majority of the Camps are present and qualified as herein provided.

Section 4. The rules of procedure at the Division Conventions and meetings of the Executive Council shall be those set forth in *Roberts Rules of Order*, latest edition, except as altered by the Division Convention or the provisions of this Constitution and By-Laws.

Section 5. Representation of Camps at Division conventions for voting and other purposes shall be by delegates who are

members in good standing of such Camp and certified as such by the Camp Commander or Adjutant. Each Camp shall be accorded one vote for every seven (7) members of such Camp in good standing, plus one (1) vote should any Camp have four or more members in excess of a number divisible by seven (7), except that each Camp will be accorded a minimum of two (2) votes.

Section 6. In all questions submitted to the meeting, the chair shall put the question for a Viva Voce vote. If the roll of Camps shall be called for, then the Camps shall be called in order, the number of votes each is entitled to stated, and the vote for and against the motion announced by the chairman of each delegation.

Section 7. When there is but one candidate for an office, upon motion, and by unanimous consent, a formal ballot may be dispensed with, and the candidate be elected by acclamation. In an election for any office for which there is more than one candidate, voting shall be by secret ballot. In balloting for officers, a majority of all votes cast shall be necessary to elect. In any election in which a majority is not received by a candidate, the two candidates who receive the most votes shall be voted on in accordance with the procedure described herein until one candidate receives a majority of votes cast.

ARTICLE VI— OFFICERS

Section 1. Elected officers shall be: Division Commander, Division Lieutenant Commander, Division Adjutant, Western Brigade Commander, Central Brigade Commander and Eastern Brigade Commander.

Section 2. The Division Commander shall appoint a 2nd Lieutenant, Chief-of-Staff and an Editor, and may appoint a Chaplain, Judge Advocate, Historian, Inspector, Quartermaster, Surgeon, Genealogist, Aides-de-Camp, and other such officers as he may deem appropriate.

Section 3. Any Division Commander who has completed a term as Division Commander, or who has succeeded to that office and completed the term of another and who does not continue to serve in that capacity shall be deemed and have the title of Past Division Commander.

Section 4. All officers shall serve until their successors are elected and sworn, appointed or otherwise qualified under the terms of this Constitution and by-Laws.

Section 5. Officers of the Missouri Division, Sons of Confederate Veterans, will be elected to serve a term of two (2) years. Terms will begin in even numbered years following the conclusion of the Division Convention.

Section 6. Any elected officer shall be limited to two (2) consecutive terms in any given elective office, with the exception of the Division Adjutant who shall be limited to four (4) consecutive terms. If the elected office is assumed due to a vacancy or by appointment then this period of time will constitute the first term of office.

Section 7. Brigade Commanders shall be elected by the vote of Camps within their respective Brigades, and must be a member in good standing of a Camp within such Brigade.

ARTICLE VII — DUTIES OF OFFICERS

Section 1. Division Commander- The Division Commander shall be the Chief Executive Officer of the Missouri Division, Sons of Confederate Veterans. With full power to enforce the provisions of this Constitution and By-Laws. He shall be the Chairman of the Division Convention and shall be empowered to act for the Division as circumstances in his judgement may require, subject to the policies or directive established by the Executive Council and subject to appeal to the Division Convention. He shall fill vacancies occurring among elected officers by appointing same, subject to the approval of the Executive Council, and shall

appoint a Budget Committee, a Confederate Heritage Committee and such other committees, as he may deem appropriate.

Section 2. 1st Lieutenant Commander - In the absence, death or resignation of the Division Commander, the Lieutenant Commander shall become the Division Commander for the unexpired term. The 1st Lieutenant Commander shall assist the Division Commander in the performance of the Commander's duties, or as the Division Commander may direct. The 1st Lt. Commander shall also be designated as Committee Chairman for the Annual Missouri Division Reunion Committee, and shall appoint members to said committee, to be charged with planning the Annual Missouri Division Reunion, and report back to the Executive Council periodically regarding the progress of the Annual Reunion.

Intent: To put in place a procedure and process whereby each year's Annual Reunion is planned and carried out by an actual committee, rather than by a loosely thrown together group or a volunteer camp. It has become increasingly difficult to not only get camps to volunteer to host an Annual Reunion, but is also becoming increasingly cost prohibitive for smaller camps to host said Reunions. By placing an actual Division Officer to be charged with planning and coordinating the Annual Reunion, the responsibility of hosting said Reunion would thereby be shifted to the Missouri Division, and no longer rest with an individual camp.

Section 3. 2nd Lieutenant Commander - The 2nd Lieutenant Commander will become the chief communications officer of the Missouri Division. Communications between camps, the webmaster, the Editor and the Brigade Commanders will be at the direction of the 2nd Lieutenant Commander, and other duties as may be assigned him by the Division Commander.

Section 4. Chief-of-Staff — The Chief-of-Staff shall be responsible for coordinating the work of the Division Staff, acting as liaison officer with the Camp Commanders and performing such other duties as may be assigned him by the Division Commander.

Section 5. Adjutant — The Adjutant shall be charged with the administration of the policies of the Division Convention, Executive Council and the Division Commander. He shall keep records of the proceedings of the Division Conventions, a roster of Camps, minutes of the Executive Council meetings, conduct correspondence of the Division and issue general orders of the Division Commander under his signature as Adjutant. He shall make financial reports to each Division Convention and Executive Council meeting and provide any and all information upon request of the Division Commander or any Executive Council member.

Section 6. Judge Advocate — The Judge Advocate shall advise the Division Commander and the Executive Council on all legal matters and the construction and interpretation of the Missouri Division and General Constitutions and By-Laws. He shall act as Parliamentarian at all Missouri Division Conventions, and see that the Missouri Division, Sons of Confederate Veterans files such reports with the Internal Revenue Service or the Missouri Department of Revenue as may be required by law or regulation.

Section 7. Chaplain — The Chaplain shall open and close with prayer all Missouri Division meetings and conventions and shall perform such other spiritual duties as directed by the Division Commander. He shall send proper condolences to the families of deceased members as he is notified by the respective Camps.

Section 8. Editor — The Editor shall be responsible for the regular publication and distribution of the Missouri Division newsletter and such other publications as may be authorized by the Division Commander, Executive Council or Division convention. The Missouri Division Newsletters shall be financed jointly by the Camps of the Division and shall be sent to all members of Camps in the Missouri Division, to others who shall subscribe to same, and to such others as may be directed by the Executive Council or deemed appropriate by the Editor.

Section 9. Historian — The Historian shall be responsible for the keeping of a scrapbook or books to reflect the history of the activities of the Missouri Division and for such other duties as may be directed by the Division Commander. He shall contribute appropriate articles for publication in the Missouri Division newsletter when requested to do the same by the Editor.

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Section 10. Surgeon— The Surgeon shall perform the duties properly appertaining to his office, and shall attend members of the Division Convention in need upon the request of the Division Commander.

Section 11. Aides-de-Camp and other officers — Aides-de-Camp and other Division officers shall perform duties as directed by the Division Commander.

Section 12. Brigade Commanders—Brigade Commanders shall be responsible for the development of new Camps within the general area of their Brigade, recruiting of new members, assisting Camp Commanders within their Brigade and the performing of such other duties as may be directed by the Division Commander.

ARTICLE VIII — EXECUTIVE COUNCIL

Section 1. The Executive Council shall be the governing body of the Missouri Division, Sons of Confederate Veterans, subject to the legislative authority of the Division Convention as expressed herein, and shall be composed of: the Division Commander, Lieutenant Commander, Adjutant, Immediate Past Division Commander, Western Brigade Commander, Central Brigade Commander, Eastern Brigade Commander and Commanders of Camps in good standing, except that any one person shall be limited to one vote.

Section 2. The Executive Council shall meet at such times and in such places within the State of Missouri as may be ordered by the Division Commander, except that a special meeting of the Executive Council may be called by any five (5) members of the Executive Council. Any regular or special meeting of the Executive Council shall be upon ten (10) days written notice unless a waiver of notice be obtained from all Executive Council members. The Executive Council may conduct its business by mail, telephone, Internet or other electronic medium, if its members so approve.

Section 3. The Division Commander shall be the ex-officio chairman of the Executive Council, shall conduct meetings of the Executive Council at which he is present and shall vote only to break a tie on any matter of controversy.

Section 4. A quorum shall exist at meetings of the Executive Council when thirty-three and one third (33 1/3) percent of the members (including four [4] presently elected Division officers) are present.

Section 5. In case of absence by a Camp Commander at an Executive Council meeting, an elected officer, or a member in good standing if an officer is not present, of that Camp may be authorized by the Camp Commander to vote as his proxy, with written documentation that shall be produced to the Division Adjutant prior to the start of the meeting.

ARTICLE IX — FINANCE AND BUDGET

Section 1. The fiscal year of the Missouri Division, Sons of Confederate Veterans, shall coincide with the fiscal year of the National Organization of the Sons of Confederate Veterans as specified by its Constitution and By-Laws.

Section 2. The revenue of the Missouri Division, Sons of Confederate Veterans, shall be derived from annual membership dues set by the Division Convention and from such other sources as may be approved by the Executive Council.

Section 3. The annual membership dues shall be paid by each Camp for every member in good standing to the Missouri Division Adjutant. A roster of the names and addresses of members in good standing shall be submitted along with the annual

divisional membership dues, to the Division Adjutant or before the delinquent date specified in the National Constitution.

Section 4. Camps shall not be allowed representation at the Division Convention unless the annual divisional membership dues have been paid to the Missouri Division Adjutant. At each Division Convention, the Division Adjutant will conduct a roll call of Camps, state the status of the dues of each Camp, and attest to the number of votes to be accorded each Camp.

Section 5. A Budget Committee, appointed by the Division Commander and chaired by the Lieutenant Commander, shall prepare and submit a proposed annual budget for the operation of the Missouri Division for consideration and approval by the Executive Council. The Division Adjutant shall report to the membership at each Division Convention regarding the disbursements of funds for the year preceding that Division Convention.

Section 6. No more than two-thirds of the annual Missouri Division membership dues revenue shall be allocated to the annual operating budget. Remaining funds shall be placed in interest-bearing accounts or otherwise invested as may be directed by the Executive Council. The current annual interest from the interest-bearing accounts may annually, by direction of the Executive Council, be allocated to the annual operating budget. Funds derived from sources other than membership dues may be allocated to the annual budget upon approval of the Executive Council.

Section 7. Division Commanders shall at the beginning of each term of office be allotted up to \$250 to be used for the purchase of letterhead or miscellaneous supplies necessary to perform their office in an efficient and competent manner. Receipts shall be submitted to the Division Adjutant for approval and reimbursement. Additional moneys may be made available for the Division Commander or his staff subject to the approval of the Executive Council.

Section 8. Twenty (20) percent of collected annual Missouri Division membership dues shall be allocated toward that fiscal year's annual Missouri Division Reunion.

Section 9. Ten (10) percent of collected annual Missouri Division membership dues shall be allocated to the Heritage Operations Fund for Division marketing and heritage defense purposes, as determined by the budget committee and approved in the annual budget by the Executive Committee, or as such special need arises outside of the budget, and approved by the Executive Committee.

Section 10. The Missouri Division, Sons of Confederate Veterans, shall make available a Division Life membership to its members in good standing. A one-time payment of a fee equal to twenty-five (25) times the annual Division dues, or a payment of \$100 followed by payments of the remaining balance to the Missouri Division Adjutant during one fiscal year of the Division, will grant lifetime Missouri Division membership. If the Division Life membership is paid in installments, the first payment must be made before the date specified for annual payment of Division dues. Division Life Membership funds shall be placed in an interest-bearing account. Interest from the Life Membership account shall annually be used to purchase an annual Division membership for each Life member.

ARTICLE X — PROHIBITIONS

Section 1. There shall be no discussion of sectarian religious or political subjects identifiable with any political party or candidate permitted at any function, convention, meeting or other gathering of the Missouri Division, Sons of Confederate Veterans. The Missouri Division shall not endorse any candidate, party or proposition identifiable with any party at any of its Conventions or meetings, in accordance with the National Constitution and By-Laws of the Sons of Confederate Veterans.

Section 2. No debts shall be contracted by the Missouri Division, Sons of Confederate Veterans, except by a two-thirds vote of the Executive Council.

Section 3. The use of the insignia, badges or name of this Confederation for business, commercial, political or unauthorized use is strictly prohibited; nor shall such badges or insignia be given or bestowed upon any one not eligible to wear them under the Constitution and By-Laws of the National Organization of the Sons of Confederate Veterans.

Section 4. No person shall be elected, appointed or serve as an officer or committee member of the Missouri Division unless he is a member in good standing of one of the Camps of the Missouri Division, Sons of Confederate Veterans.

ARTICLE XI — COMMITTEES

Section 1. Committees may be appointed by the Division Commander as he may deem necessary and appropriate, and may also be dissolved at his pleasure, except as otherwise specified by this Constitution and By-Laws. Unless otherwise designated, the first named to such committees shall act as Chairman.

Section 2. All committees shall meet when called by the Chairman of same. Committees shall make written reports and recommendations to the Division Commander and the Executive Council as soon as assigned duties are performed.

Section 3. The Budget and Confederate Heritage Committees, which are continuing in nature and required by provisions of this Constitution, shall report on their activities to each Division Convention.

ARTICLE XII — AMENDMENTS

This Constitution and By-Laws may be amended at any Division Convention by a vote of two-thirds of the authorized representation in assembly, provided that the proposed amendment is sent by United States mail to each Camp in good standing at least thirty (30) days prior to convening of such Division convention.