

**CONSTITUTION
OF
THE TEXAS SOCIETY SONS OF THE AMERICAN REVOLUTION, INC.**

ARTICLE I - NAME

The name of this society shall be:

"TEXAS SOCIETY SONS OF THE AMERICAN REVOLUTION, INC."

ARTICLE II - OBJECTIVES

The objectives of this society are declared to be patriotic, historical and educational and shall include those intended or designed to perpetuate the memory of those, who by their services or sacrifices during the war of the American Revolution, achieved the independence of the American People; to unite and promote fellowship among their descendants; to inspire them and the Community at large with a more profound reverence for the principles of the government founded by our forefathers; to encourage historical research in relation to the American Revolution; to acquire and preserve the records of the individual services of the patriots of the war, as well as the documents, relics, and landmarks; to mark the scenes of the Revolution by appropriate memorials; to celebrate the anniversaries of the prominent events of the war and of the Revolutionary period; to foster true patriotism; to maintain and extend the institutions of American freedom; and to carry out the purposes expressed in the Preamble of the Constitution of our country and the injunctions of Washington in his farewell address to the American People.

ARTICLE III - MEMBERSHIP

SECTION 1. Any man shall be eligible for membership in the Society who, being of the age of eighteen years or over, and a citizen of good repute in the community, is the lineal descendant of an ancestor who was at all times unfailing in loyalty to, and rendered active service in the cause of American Independence, either as an officer, soldier, seaman, marine, militiaman, in the armed forces of the Continental Congress, or of any of the several Colonies or states; or as a signer of the Declaration of Independence; or as a member of a Committee of Safety or Correspondence; or as a member of any Continental, Provincial, or Colonial Congress or Legislature; or as a recognized patriot who performed actual service by overt acts of resistance to the authority of Great Britain; provided, however, that no person advocating the overthrow of the Government of the United States by use of force or violence shall be eligible for membership in this Society.

SECTION 2. The acceptance of any eligible man to membership shall first be subject to the approval of the National Society, and further subject to approval of the Board of Managers of this Society, or a committee created by the Board of Managers for such purpose, and the Local Chapter

of which he is to become a member.

SECTION 3. There shall be two classes of membership: Active Members and Perpetual Members. There shall be no honorary members.

SECTION 4. An Active Member is one who is in good standing and not a Perpetual Member. By good standing, as used in this Constitution and in the Bylaws of this Society, is meant a member who is current with payment of his dues and who has not been suspended or expelled from the Society.

SECTION 5. An Active Member of this Society in good standing who has been active in good standing for a continuous period of twenty-five years may, upon attaining the age of sixty-five and contingent upon a majority vote of the Board of Managers, become a Perpetual Member Emeritus.

SECTION 6. Applications for membership shall be made through any Local Chapter.

SECTION 7. The official designation of the members of this Society shall be "compatriot."

SECTION 8. The Board of Managers may also elect to Perpetual Member Emeritus those members who by reasons of long length of membership, advanced age, impaired physical or mental condition, or impaired ability to pay dues, or any combination of such factors, are deemed by the Board of Managers to merit such consideration.

ARTICLE IV - DISTRICTS

SECTION 1. The state of Texas shall be divided into districts as determined by the Board of Managers.

ARTICLE V - OFFICERS

SECTION 1. The officers of this Society shall be a President, President Elect, State Secretary, Staff Secretary, Treasurer, Registrar(s), Historian, Chancellor, Chaplain, Vice President for Americanism Contests and Awards, and District Vice Presidents, whose duties shall be those as shall be prescribed by the Bylaws. They shall be elected by a majority vote of the delegates present at the Annual Meeting of the Society, shall hold office for one year and until their successors are elected and qualified. Any other officer except the President may hold the office of Chancellor.

SECTION 2. At each annual meeting of the State Society there shall be elected Vice Presidents, each to be designated as a District Vice President, except as otherwise specifically prescribed by Section 1 of Article VI of the Bylaws of the State Society.

SECTION 3. All nominations of officers shall be made from the floor. Nominations made by committee for such purpose shall be considered nominations from the floor.

SECTION 4. Members living or residing or working within 75 miles, as reflected on the Official Texas Map now published by the Texas Department of Transportation, of the annual meeting of the State Society, shall by that fact be ineligible for nomination and/or election to the office of President Elect of the state Society.

ARTICLE VI - BOARD OF MANAGERS

SECTION 1. The officers named in Article V, Section 1, of this Constitution upon election and installation, during their respective term of office; the immediate Past President of this Society, the duly elected and acting National Trustees and all past National Trustees and Alternate National Trustees those members in good standing who have been Presidents of this Society; ~~and~~ all present and past ~~General~~ Officers of the National Society, who during such term of National Society office were and are now members of this state Society; and the Chairman, and in the absence of the Chairman, the Vice Chairman, and in the absence of the Chairman and the Vice Chairman, the Secretary of the Council of the Chapter Presidents shall comprise the Board of Managers, hereinafter sometimes referred to as the BOM or Board of this State Society. They shall receive such compensation for the performance of such service and expense, as shall be provided in the Bylaws.

SECTION 2. The Board of Managers shall have such power and authority as conferred by this Constitution and the Bylaws of this Society.

SECTION 3. The Board of Managers shall have power to act by the use of mail, email, telephone, or telephone conference ballot in lieu of a Board Meeting. The State Secretary, upon written or verbal request of the President, shall cause a mail, email, or telephone vote to be taken, or conduct a telephone conference, on any business that may be transacted by the Board at any meeting, unless specifically herein otherwise provided. The President may personally call and conduct such ballot if he so desires. If the President shall be unavailable, disabled, or refuse to call such a ballot, the Secretary shall call such a ballot upon the verbal or written request of any seven members of the Board, or any such seven members of the Board, upon an agreement between them, may personally call such a ballot. Not less than seven of the then existing membership of the Board shall be required to vote upon any question presented by use of mail, telephone, email, or telephone conference ballot, and shall constitute a quorum. An affirmative vote of the majority of those voting shall be necessary for adoption. No prior notice of such a ballot shall be required. The result of such balloting shall be given to all members of the Board of Managers and shall become part of the minutes of the next succeeding meeting. No such method of balloting shall be permitted as to Article VIII, Section 5 and 6.

ARTICLE VII - MEETINGS

SECTION 1. The Annual Meeting of this Society shall be held each year not less than sixty days prior to the Annual Congress of the National Society, for the election of officers and for the transaction of other business brought before it, including the nomination of a National Trustee.

SECTION 2. Special meetings may be called by the President, and shall be called by him when so directed by the majority of the Board of Managers or when requested by at least six Local Chapters of this Society, on giving thirty days notice to the Presidents of the Local Chapters specifying the time and place of such meeting and the business to be transacted.

ARTICLE VIII - LOCAL CHAPTERS

SECTION 1. DELETED

SECTION 2. One or more Local Chapters of this Society may be organized or be reactivated at any time or times in any city, town or village in this state upon the written application of not less than six members of this Society in good standing or not less than six persons eligible for membership in the Society and after due notification to the District Vice President by the state Secretary, upon the approval of the majority of the Board of Managers. The petition shall be addressed to the State Secretary. Provided, however, that the full amount of the dues of the current year must accompany the petition, and if any of those signers of the petition are not members of the Society, approval of the Board of Managers shall be withheld until their membership is duly passed upon and granted. Once the application is approved by the Board of Managers and all other conditions stated above are met, the petitioning organization must elect officers and schedule a date for the Installation and Chartering. On the date designated by the President of the Texas Society, the officers of said organization shall be installed, and a Charter shall be presented to them, establishing a new Chapter of the Society.

SECTION 3. Local chapters may adopt a Constitution and Bylaws and provide for the change and/ or amendment thereof, but they shall be subject to the Constitution and Bylaws of this Society and any conflict shall render such conflicting provision or provisions void.

SECTION 4. Local chapters shall hold an Annual Meeting not less than thirty days prior to the Annual Meeting of this Society for the election of officers and transaction of business. The said officers shall be elected to serve for the same fiscal year as the state officers as provided in Article V. Names and addresses of officers elected shall be immediately forwarded to the State Secretary.

SECTION 5. Any Local Chapter may surrender its charter to this Society. The Charter of a Local Chapter may be forfeited or revoked by the Board of Managers of this Society for good and sufficient cause if three-fourths of the members of the Board of Managers present vote in the affirmative, a majority of those comprising the Board being present. If a charter be forfeited or revoked by the Board of Managers, the Local Chapter involved may appeal such action to the Board at the next Annual Meeting of this Society. The Bylaws of this Society may prescribe procedures for forfeiting or revoking a charter of a Local Chapter not inconsistent herewith.

SECTION 6. If any Local Chapter becomes defunct by surrender, forfeiture or revocation of its charter, the Board of Managers of this Society, acting as trustees, shall take over the real and personal property owned and held by such Local Chapter at such time as it becomes defunct and such property shall be disposed of in such a manner as shall be prescribed by any Annual Meeting of this Society.

SECTION 7. Local Chapters of this Society shall hold a meeting between the Annual Meeting of this Society and at least thirty days prior to the summer meeting of the Board of Managers and shall notify the President, and appropriate District Vice President and the Secretary of the date, time and place of such a meeting at least forty-five days prior to the meeting. Each District Vice President shall be authorized to convene a meeting of any Local Chapter in his District not providing such notice by requiring the Secretary to notify each member of the Local Chapter of the date, time and place for such meeting the District Vice President selects.

ARTICLE IX - INITIATION FEES AND DUES

The Bylaws of this Society shall provide for the payment of initiation fee and annual dues. If any ~~such~~ member other than a Perpetual Member fails to pay the annual dues within the required time, he shall be dropped from active membership in the Society. A dropped member shall not be entitled to vote, hold office or take part in the proceedings of a Local Chapter or of this Society, but may become an Active Member again as prescribed in the Bylaws. A dropped member is entitled to none of the privileges of membership.

ARTICLE X - EXPULSION

SECTION 1. If any member is by final judgment of a court of competent jurisdiction convicted of any felony or a misdemeanor involving moral turpitude, he shall automatically cease to be a member of this Society.

SECTION 2. Any member of this Society who advocates, or has advocated an overthrow of the Government of the United States, the State of Texas, or any other state of this nation, by force or violence, or who advocates, or has advocated any treasonable act against the Government, whether or not an overt act is actually committed, shall be expelled from this Society upon being found guilty of such offense by the Board of Managers.

SECTION 3. If any member is deemed guilty of an offense designated in Section 2 of this article, he shall be charged therewith in writing. The charge shall be filed with the State Secretary who shall forthwith deliver it to the President of this Society and each member of the Board of Managers, by mail or otherwise, a copy thereof, and shall also deliver by mail otherwise a copy to the accused. A meeting of the Board of Managers for the purpose of hearing such charge shall be called within but not to exceed sixty days after the receipt thereof by the State ~~Corresponding~~ Secretary, unless a regular meeting of the Board of Managers is held within such a period of time. The accused shall receive not less than seven days notice of the time and place of the meeting of the Board of Managers. The Board of Managers shall hear the evidence and determine the guilt or innocence of the accused. No member shall be expelled except upon the vote of two-thirds of the Board of Managers present at such hearing.

SECTION 4. If any member of this Society is found guilty by the Board of Managers of an offense set forth in Section 2 of this Article, and expelled from this Society, he shall be entitled to

appeal such expulsion to the next Annual Meeting of this Society by giving written notice of such appeal within five days from the date of expulsion. Pending final action by this Society at its Annual Meeting, the accused shall not be entitled to any of the privileges of the Society.

SECTION 5. An appeal from the Board of Managers to the membership of this Society shall be governed by the rules applied by the Courts of this State to an appeal from an administrative board created by any law of this State, and the substantial evidence rule shall be applicable.

ARTICLE XI - AMENDMENTS

This Constitution may be superseded by a new Constitution, amended, or in any manner changed, at any Annual Meeting of the Society or at any special meeting called for that purpose. A copy of such proposed New Constitution, Amendments, or change shall be provided to the President and Secretary of each Chapter of the State Society by the State Secretary not less than thirty days prior to the Annual Meeting at which the same is to be voted upon, and the deposit of said copy by the state Secretary in the United States Mail, first class postage prepaid, not less than thirty-three days prior to said convention and separately addressed to each President and Secretary at the last known mailing address of each respectively, as shown by the records of the State Secretary, shall constitute a compliance with the requirements of this provision. Any change voted by the members at the meeting shall be incorporated therein upon final adoption. A two-thirds vote of the delegates present shall be required for adoption.

ARTICLE XII - EFFECTIVE DATE

This Constitution shall be in full force immediately upon its adoption and the meeting at which it is adopted shall be governed thereby.

Signed original on file with the Texas Society Secretary