

**BY-LAWS OF THE WESTERN DISTRICT  
OF THE NATIONAL SOCIETY OF THE SONS OF THE AMERICAN REVOLUTION**  
Adopted July 13, 2011  
Amended \_\_\_\_\_

**ARTICLE I – NAME & STATUS**

The name of this division of the National Society of the Sons of the American Revolution shall be the “WESTERN DISTRICT” as designated in Bylaw 5, Section 1, Sub-section (d) of the Bylaws of the National Society of the Sons of the American Revolution. The district shall consist of the State Societies of California, Hawaii and Nevada.

**ARTICLE II – OBJECTIVES**

The objectives of the District are the same as those stated in Article II of the Constitution of the National Society of the Sons of the American Revolution:

*“The objects of this Society are declared to be patriotic, historical, and educational, and shall include those intended or designed to perpetuate the memory of those patriot 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 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 member in good standing in one of the State Societies listed in Article I, including dual members whose primary state of membership is outside the District, shall be a member of the Western District of the Sons of the American Revolution.

**Section 2:** Any member of the District shall be entitled to speak and vote at all District meetings.

**ARTICLE IV – GOVERNING AUTHORITY**

**Section 1:** The governing authority of the Western District shall consist of the Vice President General and the Presidents of the State Societies listed in Article I.

**Section 2:** The Vice President General shall have the following duties and responsibilities:

- (a) Shall preside at all meetings of the District
- (b) Shall represent the District at the National Trustees Meetings and the National Congress
- (c) Shall attend, whenever possible, the meetings of the State Societies and Chapters of the State Societies
- (d) Shall act as the official escort of the President General at events and meetings that occur within the District unless the President General has made other arrangements
- (e) Shall perform additional duties within the District as delegated or assigned to him by the President General, the Executive Committee, or the Board of Trustees

- (f) Shall call special meetings of the District whenever necessary
- (g) Shall submit the required reports as required by the National Society Constitution and By-Laws or as requested by the President General, the Executive Committee, or the Board of Trustees
- (h) Shall submit the name to the Secretary General of the National Society and the National Society Nominating Committee of the compatriot selected as the next Vice President General
- (i) Shall appoint a Secretary, Webmaster, and such other posts as deemed necessary for the functioning of the District
- (j) Shall maintain the history of the District to be published annually on the District website

**Section 3:** The District Secretary shall have the following duties and responsibilities:

- (a) Shall be responsible for keeping the minutes of the District meetings. Copies of said meetings shall be sent, via regular or electronic mail, to the Vice President General, the State Society Presidents, the Webmaster, and the National Office no later than thirty (30) days after a meeting is held.
- (b) Shall be responsible for notification of the time and place of District meetings. Notification shall be sent, via regular or electronic mail, to the Vice President General, the State Society Presidents, the Webmaster, and the National Office no later than thirty (30) days prior to said meeting.
- (c) Shall request and compile an Agenda and Reports Package to be sent, via regular mail or electronic mail, no later than seven (7) days prior to a District Meeting. The Reports Package shall contain a report from the Vice President General and State Society Presidents on their and their State Society activities for the period since the previous District Meeting.

**Section 4:** The Webmaster shall have the following duties and responsibilities:

- (a) Shall maintain and regularly update the District website with information including, but not limited to, contact data for the Vice President General and the State Societies, a calendar of District events, copies of all minutes and report packages, and a history of the District.
- (b) Shall forward feedback and contact information received from the website to the Vice President General.

## **ARTICLE V – MEETINGS**

**Section 1:** District Meetings shall consist of an Annual Meeting and as many other regular or special meetings as scheduled or called by the Vice-President General. All meetings require a minimum of a thirty (30) day written notice by electronic mail or regular mail. Meeting dates, locations and times shall be chosen to convenience the greatest number of members as possible. The meeting held in conjunction with the Annual Meeting of the Vice-President General’s State Society shall be the Annual Meeting of the District.

**Section 2:** The agenda of any regular meeting shall consist of the following:

Call to order  
 Invocation  
 Pledge to the US Flag  
 Pledge to the SAR Flag  
 Approval of the minutes  
 Introduction of guests  
 Remarks of the President General (if in attendance)  
 Remarks of the Vice President General  
 Remarks of the General Officers other than President General (if any in attendance)  
 Remarks of the State Society Presidents  
 Old Business  
 New Business  
 Round Table Discussion

General Officer Candidates Forum (three (3) minutes per candidate or their representative)  
Endorsement of General Officer Candidates (Fall meeting only)  
SAR Recessional  
Benediction  
Adjournment

**Section 3:** For special called meetings, the notice of the meeting shall include the purpose for the special meeting and only those items properly disclosed for discussion may be considered for action.

**Section 4:** A quorum for any meeting shall consist of the Vice President General and 1 of the 3 State Society Presidents or their official designee. In the case that the State Society President cannot attend, he shall notify the Vice President General and District Secretary of the name of their official designee no later than seven (7) days prior to the meeting.

#### **ARTICLE VI – ELECTION OF THE VICE PRESIDENT GENERAL**

**Section 1:** As stated in Bylaw 5 of the National Society Sons of the American Revolution, “there shall be one (1) Vice-President General elected from ... the ... District.” As stated in Article IV, Section 1 of the Constitution of the National Society Sons of the American Revolution, “the General Officers of this Society shall be ... a Vice-President General for each of the regularly established districts...who shall be elected ... at the Annual Congress.”

**Section 2:** The candidate for nomination as Vice-President General shall be decided by a vote of the current Vice President General and the most recent Vice Presidents General from the other two states.

**Section 3:** The current Vice-President General shall forward the name of the District’s nominee to the Secretary General and the chairman of the national nominating committee in writing no later than thirty (30) days after the Annual District Meeting.

#### **ARTICLE VII – PARLIAMENTARY AUTHORITY**

The rules contained in the current edition of *Robert’s Rules of Order, Newly Revised* shall govern the District in all cases where applicable and in which they are not inconsistent with these By-Laws and any special rules of order that the District may adopt.

#### **ARTICLE VIII – AMENDMENTS**

Proposed amendments to these By-Laws shall be submitted in writing to the Vice President General, the State Society Presidents, and the District Secretary no later than twenty (20) days prior to a regularly scheduled District Meeting and shall require a two-thirds (2/3) affirmative vote of those members present and voting at the meeting for approval.

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These By-Laws adopted at the Special Meeting of the Western District held on July 13, 2011 in Winston-Salem, NC, at which a quorum was present.

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Stephen R. Renouf  
Vice President General

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District Secretary