

Missouri Civil War Reenactors Association

Policy Summary

Revised April 6, 2024

SCHEDULING:

1. Presentations for MCWRA Max and Sanctioned events will be made at the third quarter meeting.
2. MCWRA will appoint a coordinator to assist with event organizer(s).
3. Standard forms will be established for individual registration and individual release of liability.

DEFINITION OF EVENTS:

1. **Max Effort:** 100% participation urged. If reenacting an actual event, then those branches that were there should be included in the scenario. If the reenactment is not of an actual battle, all branches must be included in the weekend scenario.
2. **Sanctioned:** Events which meet the MCWRA planning, preparation, safety, and insurance guidelines.
3. **Benefit:** If admission is charged for benefit of a recognized non-profit organization, then funds received must be donated in their entirety and cannot be used to defray costs of putting on the event.
4. **Listed:** Non-MCWRA event for information only.

UNIT DEFINITION AND STATUS:

1. A MCWRA unit is defined as a recognized group, that generally prefer to fit into a category of infantry, cavalry, artillery, guerrilla, provost marshal, medical, civilian, or etc.

2. A recognized unit is one that has successfully undergone a probationary period, been accepted by the MCWRA Board, and meets the criteria listed below.

Infantry: 10 individuals

Cavalry: 8 individuals together with mounts

Dismounted Cavalry: 10 individuals

Artillery: One artillery piece approved for authenticity and safety, by three (3) Artillery Officers appointed by the MCWRA Board, plus a minimum crew of five (5) individuals. Artillery Units may include more than one gun with adequate crew of 5. No artillery unit will be accepted for MCWRA membership, nor new piece by an established unit, if the piece is not approved by the three (3) Artillery officers appointed by the MCWRA board.

Guerrillas: 5 individuals with or without mounts

Provost Marshal: 5 individuals with or without mounts

Medical: 3 individuals

Engineers: 5 individuals

Other Units: 5 individuals performing authentic functions

The numerical criterion for a combatant unit is number of combatants aged 16 or older.

3. Each new unit will undergo a probationary period of one year.
4. Each new probationary unit must have a sponsor from the same branch who will recommend to the Board when the probationary unit meets the criteria for full membership. Example is a cavalry unit must be sponsored by a cavalry unit etc. Any non-combatant units may be sponsored by any unit.
5. All units must maintain the minimum number of members to maintain active voting status and unit status.

MEMBERSHIP DUES:

1. Individual and family (family include parents and children under the age of 16) dues are \$15.00 per calendar year.
2. Lifetime membership fee are \$150.00 individual or family.
3. Membership fee makes the person a MCWRA member and covered under the insurance umbrella at MCWRA sanctioned events during the calendar year. The sponsoring unit is

the Primary responsible party for ensuring that non-MCWRA members are charged for membership for that event. The Secondary responsible party is the Provost Marshal.

4. Regardless of what time of year dues are paid, they are only good for the calendar year paid in.

MEMBERSHIP VOTING:

1. Ballots will be included in the Western Campaigner and will be on the MCWRA website. They will be mailed to the MCWRA Treasurer to verify they are paid members. Names who are voting (return address) need to be on the envelope which will remain sealed until the next board meeting. There they will be opened and counted. If a return address is not on the envelope, they will not be counted as the treasurer will not be able to verify, they are a member. Secretary/Treasurer will maintain these ballots for one year.
2. Each member 16 or older, whose dues are paid, is entitled to vote.
3. All family memberships will receive one (1) ballot.
4. One member equals one vote. In a family situation, if another vote is desired (wife, other combatant, etc.) another membership is required. Membership entitles the member (and in a family membership) to one vote, MCWRA insurance umbrella and the newsletter.

ADMINISTRATIVE:

1. Regular Board meetings be scheduled on a quarterly basis.
2. Board meeting shall coincide with the scheduling of the general membership meeting. \
3. Potential events should be presented at the third (3) quarterly meeting.
4. Date for next meeting will be set at each meeting before adjournment.]

5. All units/representatives attending any board or general meeting will sign- in which includes their name, unit, and contact information.
6. Spector Insurance limits are set to \$2 million. \
7. In order for family members to be covered under the MCWRA insurance umbrella in a family membership, all names of the family must be turned in to the treasurer.
8. A sponsor's questionnaire maybe used for a MCWRA sanctioned event. These questionnaires are contained in the packet for events. Packets are available upon request,
9. The MCWRA Logo is available for use by members, if approved the by MCWRA Board.
10. Event sponsors will be required to purchase MCWRA spectator insurance.

Event Schedule Information:

1. Sponsors/Representers for events should attend the 3rd quarterly meeting with their information and money for the spectator insurance. Spectator insurance fees are as follows:

\$25.00 for memorial or similar events

\$50.00 for living history

\$100.00 for small reenactment

\$150.00 for large reenactment

2. If it is necessary for the event sponsors to cancel the event, the MCWRA will return their insurance fees upon request.
3. Cancellations shall be made no less than 30 days prior to the scheduled event date.

WESTERN CAMPAIGNER:

1. Western Campaigner for delinquent members will be April 1st or after the first quarterly newsletter goes out.
2. Western Campaigner will not publish anonymous, or name withheld letters.

3. First Class postage will be used for the newsletter when electronic delivery is not requested.
4. If for any reason members do not want electronic delivery. They must contact the treasurer and request a hard copy, so the editor is aware of this. An up-to-date roster will be sent to the editor each quarter.
5. Any inserts must be approved by the MCWRA Board.

SAFETY:

1. Overall commanders are responsible for safety.
2. Each unit commander is responsible for the safety of his/her unit. Commanders shall implement safety rules applicable to each branch of service.
3. Camp Fire safety is the responsibility of each unit and individual attending an event.
4. The rules "no pets in camp" is considered a part of our safety regulations. This shall include the period sutler area. The only exception to this rule is if they are a service dogs as defined by Federal Law. They must be visible defined as a service dog either by collar, harness or by vest. They must be on a leash.
5. Flags shall not be captured unless a choreographed part of the scenario.
6. There will be no live fire (ammunition projectile) at events.
7. If a live projectile is fired or another incident threatens the safety of the event, the battle will immediately be stopped, and all troops will remain in place until the situation is resolved and instructions are issued by the senior commanders.
8. MCWRA Safety rules will be implemented at all MCWRA sanctioned events.

AUTHENTICITY AND PARTICIPATION:

1. Roles of participants are limited to those of the 19th Century perception.

2. Household pets (dog, cats, etc.) are not allowed in camp, except service dogs meeting Federal Law.

3. Minimum age for combatants (example carrying a weapon or working on artillery) participating in battle must be over the age of 16. If they are a non-combatant (non-weapons bearing) the age shall be 13 years of age subject to the following:

- a) must be able to perform the job assigned
- b) must be under direct adult supervision

GENERAL CONDUCT:

1. Provost Marshal may be required for each side at all MCWRA sanctioned events.
2. Provost Marshal responsible to report to overall commander and be responsible for maintaining order.
3. Provost Marshall can draw on any units for assistants as needed.
4. Parents are responsible for always supervising their children and the Unit Commanders/NCO's should enforce this requirement.
5. No illegal drugs or cannabis will be allowed at MCWRA sanctioned events at any time.
6. No alcohol will be consumed at MCWRA sanctioned events when the camps are open to the public.

RULES OF CONDUCT:

1: The following rules shall serve as minimum standards of conduct expected of all members/units of the MCWRA sanctioned event.

Only period uniforms, clothing, accouterments, materials, weapons, etc. will be used. In general, military appearance will be that of the common soldier of the Civil War in Missouri during the years 1861 – 1865; firearms shall be of period correct type, reproduction, or original common military arms (where deemed safe), no metallic cartridges may be used on the field (these arms

are defined as original, or reproduction arms based on those manufactured prior to 1865). Dependents and civilians are welcome to participate in normal historical roles in proper attire, unless present as potential recruits. Women will be allowed to participate in the ranks if they present a good first-person impression. Troops will follow all reasonable and safe orders given to them by properly elected or designated officers and NCOs. Officers and NCOs shall be treated with the military courtesy due their rank and title. Specialized impressions or personae shall not participate upon the battlefield except through prior arrangement of the specific event and with the approval of the Event Organizer/Host Unit.

2. Cause for a member or unit's suspension or dismissal from the MCWRA shall include, but not be limited to the following actions: Failure to comply with the provisions set forth in the By-laws and Policies of the MCWRA. Actions that tend to embarrass or discredit the MCWRA or member units thereof, including slander of a member or member unit. Disregard for safety rules and/or continued unacceptable behavior at events or camps where they represent the MCWRA.

3. During a MCWRA sanctioned event, any member or unit accused of the items contained in Section B, Rules of Conduct, shall appear before an Event Review Board consisting of the members of the MCWRA Board present at the event and the Host Unit commander to hear charges and offer a defense. The accused may request his/her Unit commander to appear before the review board on his/her/their behalf. After charges and defenses are presented, the Event Review Board shall determine, by simple majority vote, the appropriate punishment. The punishment may include, but is not limited to, immediate suspension or expulsion from the MCWRA. The findings and punishment of the Event Review Board is appealable to the full MCWRA Board, whose decision is final. If an Event Review Board is convened and the President of the MCWRA is not present, the Board shall report its findings and rulings to the President after the event.