



SONS OF THE  
AMERICAN  
LEGION

# SONS OF THE AMERICAN LEGION

## DETACHMENT OF ARIZONA

### BY-LAWS



Revised 2024, approved by the Detachment of Arizona 06/22/2024,  
The American legion Department of Arizona Executive Committee 06/23/2024,  
at State Convention 2024, Oro Valley, Arizona.

Filed with The American Legion, Office of the National Sons of The American Legion National Adjutant June 2024.

# **Detachment of Arizona By-Laws**

## **Article I Duties of Detachment Officers**

### **Section 1.**

**Commander:** Sons of The American Legion Detachment Commander is the executive head of the organization with full power to carry out the mandates and policies of Sons of The American Legion, Detachment of Arizona, as approved by the Executive Committee of The American Legion, Department of Arizona. He performs such duties as are usually incident to the office. The Commander also acts as the Chairman of the Detachment Executive Committee of which he is a voting member and is ex-officio to all Committees operating under the Detachment Organization. The Commander is elected to serve in this capacity.

### **Section 2.**

**Vice Commanders:** The Vice Commanders, act as the representatives of the Detachment Commander on all matters referred to them upon the request of the Detachment Commander, preside over meetings and perform such other duties as are usually incident to the office. The primary function of the Vice-Commanders is to act as representatives between the Detachment Commander and the Squadrons located in the Vice-Commanders' designated areas. The function of the Vice-Commander is to accept responsibility of membership in his area and to assist the Detachment Commander in the programs of Sons of The American Legion. Vice Commanders make progress reports to Detachment Headquarters at least every (60) sixty days to the Detachment Commander and/or Detachment Adjutant. The Vice Commander is elected to serve in this capacity.

### **Section 3.**

**Adjutant:** The Adjutant, who corresponds to the secretary of an organization, is charged with the usual duties of an adjutant or secretary. He is the administrative officer of the policies and mandates of the organization. The Detachment Adjutant is ex-officio to all Committees operating under the Detachment Organization without vote except as being named having vote in the Constitution, By Laws or Standing Rules, or as named by the Detachment Commander to special and/or ad hoc committees. The Adjutant is appointed by the Detachment Executive Committee to serve in this capacity.

### **Section 4.**

**Detachment Finance officer:** The Finance Officer is the custodian of the funds of the organization and is charged with the receiving and disbursing of the funds of the Detachment. The Detachment Finance Officer makes reports on the condition of the treasury at each regular meeting and when called for by the Commander or Executive Committee; Financial disbursements are pre-approved by the Detachment approval of an annual Budget for the Fiscal Year. The Finance Officer and the Adjutant are responsible for presenting a zero-based budget to the Detachment Finance Committee in a timely manner. The Finance Officer performs such other duties as are usually incident to the office. The Detachment Finance Officer is ex-officio to all Committees operating under the Detachment Organization without vote except as being named having vote in the Constitution, By Laws or Standing Rules, or as named by the Detachment Commander to special and/or ad hoc committees. The Finance Officer is appointed by the Detachment Executive Committee to serve in this capacity.

## **Article I**

### **Duties of Detachment Officers**

(continued)

#### **Section 5.**

**Sergeant At Arms:** The Sergeant at Arms is charged with responsibility of preserving order at all Detachment meetings and is given the responsibility of the colors of the Detachment when they are not in the possession of the Detachment Commander. He assists the Detachment Commander at all installations and initiations, and such other functions of the Detachment as the Detachment Commander deems necessary and are incidental to his office. The Sergeant at Arms is appointed by the Commander to serve in this capacity.

#### **Section 6.**

**Chaplain:** The Chaplain performs such divine nonsectarian service, as is necessary adhering to the ceremonial rituals as may be prescribed. The Chaplain is elected to serve in this capacity.

#### **Section 7.**

**Historian:** The Historian collects from year to year all records, data of value and interest of Sons of The American Legion, Detachment of Arizona, and compiles bound history of the year's activities, to be presented to the outgoing Detachment Commander on completion of his term. The Historian is appointed by the Commander to serve in this capacity.

#### **Section 8.**

**Judge Advocate:** The Judge Advocate is the arbiter of all disputes concerning this Constitution, By-laws and Standing Rules and may only be overruled by a (2/3<sup>rd</sup>) two-thirds, plus (1) one vote of the body in session. He is charged with the maintenance and updating of this Constitution and By-laws. The Judge Advocate is appointed by the Commander to serve in this capacity.

#### **Section 9.**

The American Legion governs all Officers of Sons of The American Legion in the performance of their duties. All actions of Sons of The American Legion is subject to review and approval of The American Legion.

## **Article II**

### **Squadron & Detachment Constitution & By-Laws**

#### **Section 1.**

Each Squadron must adopt a Constitution and By-laws with the approval of the sponsoring Post. The Squadron Constitution and By-laws must be adopted with the approval of the appropriate level of The American Legion, and there must be no conflict with the National, Department or Detachment Constitution and By-laws. Squadron Constitution and Bylaws, which are subordinate to and Department of Arizona and National American Legion Constitution and By-laws. Squadrons not having a Constitution and By-laws approved by the sponsoring Post, Detachment and Department Executive Committee, will not be recognized at Detachment Convention.

## **Article III Executive Committee**

### **Section 1.**

The Constitution of any Squadron or Detachment may create an Executive Committee, and their powers and composition are stated in this Detachment Constitution, By-laws and Standing Rules and must not exceed or conflict with said documents.

## **Article IV Membership**

### **Section 1.**

Membership in Sons of The American Legion is membership in the Detachment and National organization of Sons of The American Legion by affiliation with a Squadron.

### **Section 2.**

Each Squadron is the judge of its own membership subject to the restrictions and qualifications of The American Legion National Constitution and By-laws.

### **Section 3.**

Members may be suspended or expelled under the same provisions for suspension or expulsion of a member of The American Legion.

## **Article V Membership and Arrears Dues**

### **Section 1.**

Applications for membership is verified by the designated officials of the sponsoring Post of The American Legion having jurisdictions over the Squadron.

### **Section 2.**

Any member not having current year membership dues paid by December 31 of said year is delinquent. A delinquent member is suspended from all privileges.

## **Article VI Expenses**

### **Section 1.**

All non-budgeted Detachment expenses or Detachment line-item budget overrides of \$750.00 or under may be approved by the Detachment Finance Officer and/or the Detachment Adjutant. All non-budgeted Detachment expenses or Detachment line-item budget overrides over \$750.00 but under \$1250.00 must be approved by the Detachment Finance Committee in meeting, by a majority roll call vote of all Detachment Finance Committee members in attendance. All non-budgeted Detachment expenses or Detachment line-item budget overrides in excess of \$1250.00 must be approved by the Detachment Finance Committee in meeting, by a majority roll call vote of all Detachment Finance Committee members in attendance and forwarded to the Detachment Executive Committee for meeting and then requires approval by a majority roll call vote of all Detachment Executive Committee members in attendance (if situation warrants, Detachment non-budgeted expenses or line-item budget overrides may also be approved by the Department Adjutant Corps and/or the Department Finance Committee and/or the Department Finance Committee Chairman). Such overrides shall be reported by the Detachment Finance Officer and/or the Detachment Adjutant to the Department Finance Committee at next meeting of said Committee (Fall conference, Detachment Campout or State Convention).

## **Article VII Amendments**

### **Section 1.**

The By-laws may be amended at any Detachment Convention by a (2/3rds) two-thirds vote of the registered delegates, and are subject to the ratification by the Department Executive Committee of The American Legion.

### **Section 2.**

Resolutions may be enacted by a (2/3<sup>rd</sup>) two-thirds vote of the registered delegates at any Detachment General Meeting, and will take effect immediately following the close of business of the Detachment General Meeting, subject to the approval by the Department Executive Committee of The American Legion.

### **Section 3.**

The Detachment Bylaws are subordinate to The American Legion National, Department of Arizona and National Sons of The American Legion Constitution and By-laws. Any amendment to the Bylaws is subject to the same conditions. All conflicts of wording defers to the parent organization of which the Detachment of Arizona is subordinate.

## **Article VII Rules of Order**

### **Section 1.**

The Detachment Meetings are governed by the Detachment Constitution, Bylaws and Standing Rules. Areas not addressed in those documents are governed by Robert's Rules of Order, Parliamentary Procedure.

## **Article IX Standing Rules**

### **Section 1.**

The Detachment Standing Rules are accepted and a reference for the Detachment Constitution and Bylaws and may be amended at any Detachment General Membership Meeting by a simple majority vote of the registered delegates.

### **Revised Detachment By-Laws submitted by:**

Sons of The American Legion, Constitution and Bylaws Committee 2024:

Committee Chairman – Jeff Frain, Detachment Judge Advocate, PNC, PDC

Committee Member – Ed Cleary, PNVC, PDC

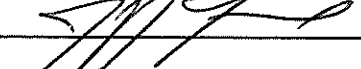
Committee Member – Dennis Pittman, Detachment Adjutant

Committee Member – Mike Bryant, Detachment Membership Director, PDVC

Detachment Commander 2023-2024 – Chris Balsley

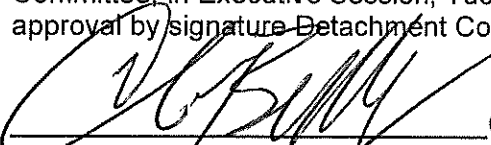
**By-Laws submitted to:** Sons of The American Legion, Detachment of Arizona, signed and dated by the Constitution and Bylaws Committee Chairman on behalf of the Committee as a whole in recommending the approval and adoption of the attached Constitution by the Detachment of Arizona, subject to the approval of the Executive Committee of the Department of Arizona:

**Constitution, Bylaws and Standing Rules Committee:**

Dated and Signed by the Committee Chairman:  **Jeff Frain**,  
dated 21<sup>st</sup>, of June 2024.

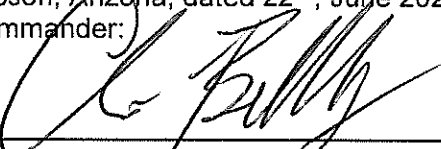
**Executive Committee Detachment of Arizona:**

By-Laws approved by Sons of The American Legion, Detachment of Arizona Executive Committee, in Executive Session, Tucson, Arizona dated 22<sup>nd</sup>, June 2024 and acknowledged approval by signature Detachment Commander:

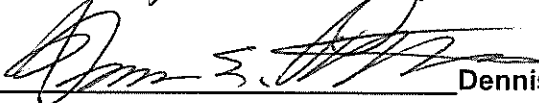
 **Chris Balsley**, (Detachment Commander presiding)

**Detachment of Arizona:**

By-Laws approved by Sons of The American Legion, Detachment of Arizona during the Detachment Convention, in General Membership Meeting, Tucson, Arizona, dated 22<sup>nd</sup>, June 2024 and acknowledged approval by signature Detachment Commander:

 **Chris Balsley**, (Detachment Commander presiding)

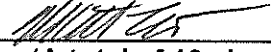
Attested June 22<sup>nd</sup>, Tucson, Arizona, by Detachment Adjutant:

 **Dennis Pittman**, (Detachment Adjutant)

**Department of Arizona:**

By-Laws approved within The American Legion, Department of Arizona protocols during regular meetings of the Department Executive Committee, Tucson, Arizona, dated 23<sup>rd</sup>, June, 2024 and acknowledged by signature of Department Commander

 **Steve Sperl**, (Department Commander presiding) and

Additionally, witness by the Department Adjutant Corps ,  
with signed originals distributed and filed with the following **(A total of 10 signed originals of the approved By-Laws with original signatures)**

**Distributed to the following**

- Each person whose signature appears on this page receives a signed set with original signatures (5 original signed copies)
- Detachment of Arizona receives two signed sets with original signatures (2 original signed copies)
- Department of Arizona receives two signed sets with original signatures (2 original signed copies)
- Sons of The American Legion National Headquarters receives a signed set with original signatures (1 original copy)

**National Sons of The American Legion, SAL National Adjutant:** By-Laws Mailed to: National Headquarters in care of the National Sons of The American Legion Adjutant of record.