



25 March 2021

Victoria Cobbett
Department Judge Advocate

PROPOSED BYLAW AMENDMENTS:

REMOTE ATTENDANCE at HYBRID STAFF MEETINGS and the CONVENTION

PROPOSED

20.61 CONVENTION VOTE

(g) Refer to section XX.XX REMOTE ATTENDANCE

(h) Remote Attendance Detachment Commandants whose Detachment has met the Department Convention Registration requirements may vote the Detachment Voting Strength subject to the Rules of the Convention.

PROPOSED

30.43 STAFF CONFERENCE ATTENDANCE

(c) Refer to section XX.XX REMOTE ATTENDANCE

PROPOSED

XX.XX REMOTE ATTENDANCE

1. A Member of the Department of Illinois Marine Corps League may attend meetings by video or audio conference subject to the following conditions:
 - a. A quorum of the elective and appointed Staff of the Department of Illinois Marine Corps League must be physically present at the designated meeting/convention location.
 - b. A Member requesting to attend by audio or video conference must notify the Department Commandant or Department Adjutant a minimum of two days prior to the convention or one hour before the beginning of the staff meeting.
 - c. Equipment must be available that will permit the Member to participate in the meeting so that the Member can hear and/or see the other Members of the Department and that the



other Members of the elected and appointive Staff of the Department can hear and/or see the Member attending by audio or video conference.

- d. A Member requesting to attend by audio or video conference must submit the following cause to the Department Commandant for remote attendance:
 - a. disability
 - b. personal illness
 - c. employment purposes or business
 - d. family emergency
 - e. loss/lack of transportation
 - f. other reason approved by the Department Commandant
2. If a Member of the elective and appointed Staff of the Department of Illinois Marine Corp League attends a meeting by audio or video conference in accordance with this policy, the minutes of that meeting shall reflect that the Member was present via audio or video conference.
3. A Member attending by audio or video conference shall be permitted to participate in the meeting as if the member were physically present subject to Section 1 above to the extent permitted by the equipment used including the right to vote as permitted by membership status on any matter that should come before the Department.
4. The rules of the conference or convention shall apply as if the Member were physically present.

DISCUSSION/RATIONALE:

The Covid-19 pandemic and resultant proclamations and executive orders from the Governor of the State of Illinois have caused an interruption to the Marine Corps League's ability to hold meetings and conduct business.

This has provided an opportunity for the MCL to introduce use of technology to hold hybrid meetings and conduct business through actual and virtual attendance.

It has also offered the opportunity for Marine Corps League Members that are unable to attend Staff Meetings, Conferences or Conventions for various reasons to participate and engage with the Marine Corps League at conferences, conventions, or meetings.

The introduction of REMOTE ATTENDANCE to conferences, conventions, and meetings will facilitate accessibility and attendance by members complying with the Americans with Disabilities Act of 1990 which prohibits discrimination based on disability.

It is not the intent of these amendments to discourage actual physical attendance at conventions, conferences, or meetings.

Recommendation: Approve amendments to the Bylaws impacted by REMOTE ATTENDANCE at HYBRID STAFF MEETINGS and the CONVENTION