



RULES OF PROCEDURE  
ANNUAL DETACHMENT CONVENTIONS  
SONS OF THE AMERICAN LEGION, DETACHMENT OF FLORIDA

The following Standard Rules of Procedure were adopted by the Detachment Executive Committee, to govern the Annual Detachment Conventions of the Sons of The American Legion, Detachment of Florida.

**General Rules:**

- 1) Matters of procedure not provided for in the Detachment Constitution or By-Laws or in these Standard Rules shall be covered by Roberts' Rules of Order, Revised.
- 2) The decision of the chair on rules and procedures shall be final, unless overturned by a vote of two-thirds (2/3) of the delegates present and voting upon an appeal from that decision.
- 3) The order of business shall be published in the printed program of the Convention, except as modified by the Detachment Commander, or as altered by a two-thirds (2/3) vote of the delegates present.
- 4) Voting in all cases, except elections and trials of officers and appeals which is by roll call, shall be by acclamation, unless roll call vote shall be demanded by a least five (5) Squadrons with one (1) or more accredited delegates present on the floor of the Convention.
- 5) When a roll call of any Squadron is demanded by a delegate of such Squadron, the Secretary of the Convention (the Detachment Adjutant) shall poll the vote of this Squadron by delegates without discussion of the question then being considered.
- 6) On roll calls, the chairman of each delegation shall poll his delegation on the floor and shall announce the vote of the delegation. The vote Past Detachment Commanders shall be cast within their respective Squadrons. Unit rule of voting shall not be permitted.
- 7) A person who is not a duly accredited delegate shall not participate directly or indirectly in a voice vote on any subject.
- 8) When a delegate desires to make a motion or address the Convention he shall rise, address the chair as "Mr. Commander," and upon receiving recognition shall state his name and the name and number of his Squadron before proceeding.

## **Resolutions:**

- 9) A resolution must have been adopted by a Squadron within the State of Florida or the Detachment Executive Committee. Such resolution shall not be considered by the convention unless presented to the Detachment Adjutant at least forty (40) days prior to the opening of the Detachment Convention (This time limit may be waived by a two-thirds (2/3) vote of the delegates present at the Detachment Convention) to be considered and acted upon by the Convention. The exception would be any resolutions that are generated by a Commission and Committee during their regular meeting.
- 10) Any resolution originating on the floor of the Convention, if permitted by a vote of two-thirds (2/3) of the delegates present, must be in writing, and will automatically, and without reading or discussion, be referred to the Detachment Internal Affairs Commission for consideration and recommendation.
- 11) Any resolution providing for the expenditure of Detachment funds, raising or lowering Detachment dues, raising funds in the name of the Detachment, shall be referred to the Detachment Finance Committee for study and recommendations, and, by that body, transmitted to the Detachment Internal Affairs Commission. The report from both the Committee and Commission shall be presented to the Convention for action.
- 12) A two-thirds (2/3) affirmative vote of the delegates shall be required for the consideration by the Convention of any resolution which has received an unfavorable report from a committee of the Convention.

## **Elections (Voting for Officers):**

- 13) The annual election of officers of the Detachment shall be a special order of business after 12:00pm on the day set for adjournment of the Convention or at the call of the Chair.
- 14) Nominations for Detachment Officers shall be from the floor of the convention and prior to the election. Nominating speeches shall be limited to five (5) minutes each. No more than two (2) seconding speeches shall be made for each candidate, each of which shall not exceed two (2) minutes.
- 15) Each delegate is entitled to one vote. The vote of any delegate absent and not represented by an alternate shall be cast by the majority of the delegation present from his Squadron.
- 16) Article V, Section 6 of the Detachment Constitution provides that Past Detachment Commanders to be eligible to cast a vote, must be present on the floor on the Convention and be in good standing in their Squadron. The Chairman of each delegation which includes the vote of a Past Detachment Commander in its vote

shall announce its vote and state that, "This vote includes the vote of Past Detachment Commander (*Then state the name of that Past Detachment Commander*), who is a member in good standing of this Squadron and is present on the floor of this convention."

- 17) Each officer to be elected at the Detachment Convention shall be voted on separately, except that the election of Detachment Vice Commanders may be elected collectively, and the ratification of the District Commanders and District Vice Commanders may be ratified collectively.
- 18) A roll call of Squadrons for the purpose of casting their votes shall continue until the roll call is complete or until there shall be only one (1) candidate for a particular Detachment Office. In the event more than two (2) candidates are nominated for any one office, all candidates, except the two (2) receiving the highest number of votes shall be eliminated following the first ballot. The Detachment Adjutant shall announce that the second ballot is about to begin and allow five (5) minutes time for the delegates to return to the convention floor and their respective delegation. Thereafter, the balloting shall continue until one (1) candidate shall receive the majority of the votes cast.
- 19) All elections shall be held in the following order or sequence, final determination within each group to be completed prior to consideration of the next group.
  - 1) Ratification of the election of the District Commander and District Vice Commander from each District.
  - 2) Detachment Sergeant-At-Arms.
  - 3) Detachment Chaplain
  - 4) Detachment Historian
  - 5) Detachment Vice Commanders (West, North, Central, East, Southwestern & South)
  - 6) National Executive Committeeman Alternate (Even numbered years)
  - 7) National Executive Committeeman (Even numbered years)
  - 8) Detachment Commander
- 20) Voting for all Detachment Officers shall be by roll call of the Squadrons, by District, beginning with District 1 and ending with District 17.