

*Constitution of the Sons of Confederate Veterans  
As adopted on July 1, 1896  
And amended in General Conventions through  
July 23, 2005*

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## ***PREAMBLE***

In the name of a reunited country, the Sons of Confederate Veterans declare the following purposes:

An unquestioned allegiance to the Constitution of the United States of America, largely written and expounded by Southern men, the very Magna Carta of our liberties; a strict construction of all sections conferring power upon the Federal Government and the implied and understood reservations to the States arising therefrom and a general attitude of opposition to further amendment thereof. We adhere to the principles of the Great Charter of England granted at Runnymede, 1215 A.D., and the Anglo-Saxon rights and personal liberties transmitted to us thereunder; to associate in one united, compact body all men of Confederate ancestry and to cultivate, perpetuate and sanctify the ties of fraternity and friendship entailed thereby; to aid and encourage the recording and teaching with impartiality of all Southern history and achievement from Jamestown to this present era, seeing to it especially that the events of the War Between the States are authentically and clearly written and that all documents, relics and mementos produced and handed down by the active participants therein are properly treasured and preserved for posterity; to comfort, succor and assist needy Sons of Confederate Veterans, their wives, widows and orphans; to urge, aid and assist in the erection of suitable and enduring monuments and memorials to all Southern valor, military and civil, wherever done and wherever found, particularly stressing that of our heroic Confederate ancestors who, by their sacrifice, perpetuated unto us and our descendants that glorious heritage of valor, chivalry and honor which we now hold and venerate; and to instill in our descendants a devotion to and reverence for the principles represented by the Confederate States of America, to the honor, glory and memory of our fathers who fought in that Cause.

Therefore, we, the representatives of the Camps, in Convention, do adopt, ordain and establish this amended Constitution which was first adopted, ordained and established in Richmond, Virginia on the first day of July 1896:

## ***ARTICLE I - TITLE***

Section 1. This Confederation of Sons of Confederate Veterans shall be known as the SONS OF CONFEDERATE VETERANS.

Section 2. The Sons of Confederate Veterans, Inc. shall be a corporation with principal offices at *Elm Springs*, Columbia, Maury County, Tennessee.

Section 3. This Constitution shall be the bylaws of the Sons of Confederate Veterans, Inc. for all purposes under State or Federal law.

## ***ARTICLE II - NATURE***

Section 1. The Sons of Confederate Veterans shall be strictly patriotic, historical, educational, benevolent, non-political, non-racial and non-sectarian. Each member shall perform his full duty as a citizen according to his own conscience and understanding.

Section 2. Discussion of matters that appertain to a political party, whether specifically identified or identified by implication, during meetings of the Confederation or any of its subdivisions is strictly prohibited. Nothing in this Constitution, however, shall be construed to abridge or prohibit the adoption or advocacy of positions that are concerned with the general welfare of the United States of America or its national security nor to abridge or prohibit the expressions of the mind of the Confederation in such matters by the adoption of resolutions or petitioning the Executive and Legislative branches of the Government, provided that there is no identification, specific or implied, with any political party.

### ***ARTICLE III - ORGANIZATION***

Section 1. The several constituted bodies of the Confederation shall be as follows:

- a. of organizations, known as Camps, each Camp to have a name and be assigned a number upon admittance;
- b. of subdivisions of States, to be known as Brigades;
- c. of State organizations, to be known as Divisions;
- d. of organizations of States, to be known as Departments.

## ***ARTICLE IV – ELIGIBILITY***

Section 1. All male descendants, lineal or collateral, of those who served in the Confederate Army or Navy or Marine Corps to the end of the War, or who died in prison or while in actual service, or who were killed in battle, or who were honorably retired or discharged, or paroled, or who died on medical furlough shall be eligible for membership in a Camp, provided that no member shall be admitted under twelve years of age.<sup>1</sup>

Section 2. No one shall be admitted to membership in any Camp until satisfactory proof of the foregoing qualifications be submitted in duplicate on official blank applications prepared for that purpose. The original shall be carefully preserved and forwarded to International Headquarters within ten days for recording and permanent preservation. Each Camp shall keep a duplicate copy of all membership application forms. It is hereby expressly provided that all Camps shall, as far as practical, bring together, on similar blanks, the records of all members admitted prior to the adoption of this provision, one copy for the Camp and the other for International Headquarters.

Section 3. Membership in the Sons of Confederate Veterans is membership in the General Organization of the Sons of Confederate Veterans by affiliation with Camps.

Section 4. Membership in the Confederation shall be of five kinds, *viz*:

- a. Active membership in one of the named Camps as hereinafter set forth.
- b. Membership in Headquarters Camp, the principal purpose for the establishment of which is to provide a means by which members who do not reside within a reasonable distance of an active named Camp may join the Confederation and thereby receive the Reports of the Adjutant-in-Chief and other pertinent information which would not otherwise be obtainable. All members of the Headquarters Camp shall be subject to the payment of the same per capita tax paid by each active named Camp for every active member and such additional dues as the General Convention may prescribe. Payment shall be made individually by each member annually to the International Headquarters.
- c. Life membership in Headquarters Camp, the member to pay twenty-five (25) times the amount set for annual per capita tax as determined by the General Convention, with the seventy-nine (79) years of age. Another fifty percent (50%) of reduced per capita tax (dues) shall be reduced for those Eighty (80) years of age and older and to be furnished with a proper certificate to be signed by the Commander-in-Chief and the Adjutant-in-Chief and said member to be exempt from payment of the per capita tax and dues to Headquarters Camp thereafter.<sup>2</sup>
- d. Real Son life membership, having submitted proof of membership qualifications and lineage, Real Son Life Membership shall be bestowed along with all rights and privileges attendant within the Camp through which membership is held. Further, Real Sons shall be exempt from payment of all recording fees, per capita taxes and dues at the National, Division and Camp levels.

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<sup>1</sup> Section amended 22 July 2005, Nashville, Tennessee.

<sup>2</sup> Section amended 22 July 2005, Nashville, Tennessee.

e. Memorial Memberships for individuals who would otherwise qualify for membership in the Sons of Confederate Veterans but who are deceased. The General Executive Council shall review all applicants of Memorial Memberships, approving only those applicants that reflect the Southern spirit and character of our Confederate ancestors. The General Executive Council shall establish the fees necessary to obtain a Memorial Membership in the Sons of Confederate Veterans. A listing of all Memorial Memberships shall be kept and maintained at International Headquarters. All fees shall be used solely to develop and furnish the Dr. William D. McCain Memorial Library at International Headquarters.

Section 5. The language of the Preamble to the contrary notwithstanding, no member of the Sons of Confederate Veterans who is not a citizen of the United States of America, shall be required to pledge or declare allegiance to the Constitution or Government of the United States of America.



## ***ARTICLE V-GENERAL CONVENTION***

Section 1. The legislative body of the Sons of Confederate Veterans shall be the General Convention. The General Convention shall commence during the dates between July 20 and August 5 (July 13 and July 29 after the 2006 General Convention) (July 10 and July 25 after the 2007 convention) and shall be held annually at the location fixed three (3) years in advance by a majority vote of the General Convention or, in case of an emergency, by the General Executive Council. Changes in location of the General Convention may be made by a General Convention or General Executive Council only with the concurrence of the Camp and/or Division which theretofore was selected as the host organization(s) for such General Convention.

Section 2. The Commander-in-Chief or, in the event of his absence, death or resignation, the Lieutenant Commander-in-Chief, at the request of a majority of Camps, or of the General Executive Council, shall convene the Confederation in special meeting, if he deems the emergency sufficient. Special meetings of a Division shall likewise be called by the Division Commander at the request of a majority of the Camps of his Division or in any emergency which he may deem sufficient.

Section 3. At all meetings delegates shall address each other as "Compatriots."

Section 4. The General Convention shall be called to order by the Commander of the Camp where the meeting is held. After prayer by the Chaplain-in-Chief, or, in his absence, the ranking Chaplain, and the address of welcome, the Chair shall be turned over to the Commander-in-Chief, who shall take charge of the General Convention. The Adjutant-in-Chief shall call the roll of General Officers of the Confederation and shall announce the number of Camps which are present by having presented their credentials to the Credentials Committee, as provided for herein, at Registration. Based upon the number of Camps determined to be present, the presence of a quorum shall be ascertained and announced.

Section 5. Every Compatriot in this Confederation in good standing will be privileged to attend the meetings of any organization belonging to the SONS OF CONFEDERATE VETERANS, and receive that fraternal consideration they are designed to foster.

Section 6. The rules of procedure at any General Convention shall be those set forth in Robert's Rules of Order, Newly Revised, except wherein they may be altered by the Convention.

Section 7. A quorum shall exist at a General Convention when one-fifth (1/5) of the Camps in good standing are represented as provided above.

## ***ARTICLE VI - GENERAL OFFICERS***

Section 1. At each General Convention held in a year the date of which is an even number, the General Convention shall elect a Commander-in-Chief, a Lieutenant Commander-in-Chief, a Commander for each of the three Departments, and a Compatriot from each of the three Departments as set forth in Article VIII hereinafter. These officers shall be elected for a term of two years, and may not succeed themselves in the same office to which they were elected. They shall be members of the Staff of the Commander-in-Chief, which shall also include the Adjutant-in-Chief, who shall be elected in accordance with Section 3, hereinafter. In addition, the Commander-in-Chief shall appoint the following Officers to be members of his Staff: a Chief of Staff, one Quartermaster-in-Chief, one Inspector-in-Chief, one Judge Advocate-in-Chief, one Surgeon-in-Chief, one Chaplain-in-Chief, one Historian-in-Chief and such assistants and aides as he may deem necessary.

Section 2. Such officers shall serve until the adjournment of the succeeding General Convention following their election, and thereafter until their successors are chosen and until every function of that General Convention is discharged.

Section 3. The Adjutant-in-Chief shall be elected for a term of two years by the General Executive Council on nomination by the Commander-in-Chief, and he may be removed from office by the General Executive Council. Upon election, he shall become a member of the General Executive Council with vote, and shall remain a member for the duration of his tenure in office as Adjutant-in-Chief.

Section 4. The Executive Director shall be employed by the General Executive Council on recommendation of the Commander-in-Chief and he shall serve at the pleasure of the General Executive Council. If a question regarding the position of Executive Director occurs at the post-Convention meeting of the General Executive Council of an election year General Convention, the incoming and continuing members only of the General Executive Council shall vote on said question.

Section 5. Each Commander-in-Chief who has served a full term and does not continue to hold the office shall have the title of Past Commander-in-Chief. He shall take rank in parades and in all other respects next to the Commander-in-Chief. Those who shall not have served a full term may have these privileges conferred on them by motion, receiving four-fifths of the votes cast at any General Convention.

Section 6. All Past Commanders-in-Chief, while in good standing in their respective Camps, shall be life delegates to all General Conventions of the Sons of Confederate Veterans with vote.

Section 7. The Editor-in-Chief shall be elected for a term of two years by the General Executive Council on nomination by the Commander-in-Chief, and he may be removed from office by the General Executive Council. Upon election, he shall become a member of the General Executive Council with vote, and shall remain a member for the duration of his tenure in office as Editor-in-Chief.

Section 8. Any member having served in the Office of Adjutant-in-Chief of the Sons of Confederate Veterans for thirty (30) years or more may, if nominated by the Commander-in-Chief and confirmed

by the General Executive Council, be designated Adjutant-in-Chief Emeritus and, if so designated, he shall hold that designation for the remainder of his life. An Adjutant-in-Chief Emeritus shall have one vote in the General Executive Council and one vote at all General Conventions.

Section 9. The Chaplain-in-Chief shall be elected for a term of two years by the General Executive Council on nomination by the Commander-in-Chief, and he may be removed from office by the General Executive Council. Upon election, he shall become a member of the General Executive Council with vote, and shall remain a member for the duration of his tenure in office as Chaplain-in-Chief.

## ***ARTICLE VII - DUTIES OF OFFICERS***

Section 1. The Commander-in-Chief shall be the chief executive officer of the Sons of Confederate Veterans with full responsibility and power to enforce the provisions of the General Constitution, the will of the General Convention, and the decisions and orders of the General Executive Council, and to this effect he may issue all necessary orders. He shall be Chairman of the General Convention and the General Executive Council and shall decide all questions of law, order or usage. He shall be empowered to act for the good of the Confederation, as circumstances, in his judgment, may require, in cases not provided for by this Constitution, subject in all such decisions and acts to appeal to the General Convention. Vacancies occurring among officers, except that of Lieutenant Commander-in-Chief, shall be filled by him until the next General Convention, upon the recommendation of the Commander of the Division or Department in which it occurs. During the interim between General Conventions, he shall have full charge of the conduct of the affairs of the Confederation, limited as stated above, amendable in all cases by the next General Convention. He shall appoint all necessary committees, and shall perform such other duties as are usually incident to the office.

Section 2. The Lieutenant Commander-in-Chief shall perform the duties of the Commander-in-Chief in the absence of the Commander-in-Chief, and in case of the death or resignation of the Commander-in-Chief shall become Commander-in-Chief for the unexpired term. The Lieutenant Commander-in-Chief shall assist the Commander-in-Chief in the performance of his duties as directed by the Commander-in-Chief. He shall be a member of the General Executive Council, and shall be a member of the Staff of the Commander-in-Chief.

Section 3. In the event that the Lieutenant Commander-in-Chief office becomes vacant, the Commander-in-Chief shall nominate no more than two candidates for the office of Lieutenant Commander-in-Chief. Nominations shall be presented to the next regular meeting of the General Executive Council for selection. The General Executive Council shall make its selection by majority vote, or if no candidate is selected, may request that the Commander-in-Chief present another slate of nominations at the next meeting. The Lieutenant Commander-in-Chief so chosen shall hold office until the next scheduled election of General Officers by the General Convention.

Section 4. The Department Commanders shall command Departments. They shall assist the Commander-in-Chief by counsel or otherwise. They shall encourage the enrollment into Camps of all members of the Sons of Confederate Veterans in their Departments, supervise the work of their Division, and see to the enforcement of all orders from International Headquarters. They shall act as representatives of the Commander-in-Chief on all matters referred to them by him and shall, on his request, in the absence of the Lieutenant Commander-in-Chief, preside over the meetings of the General Convention or General Executive Council, and perform such other duties as are usually incident to the office. They shall be members of the General Executive Council.

Section 5. The Adjutant-in-Chief shall be charged with the administration of the policies and mandates of the General Convention, the General Executive Council and of the Commander-in-Chief. He shall, with the assistance of the Executive Director and such other staff as the Confederation may employ, have charge of the International Headquarters and the operation thereof. He shall keep correct records of the proceedings of the International Headquarters and the General Convention, a roster of the Department, Division, Brigade and Camp Officers, and a roll of the Camps; conduct the

correspondence of the Confederation; issue the necessary orders under the direction of the Commander-in-Chief; be the keeper of the Seal of the Confederation, and issue under it all certificates of membership, commissions and documents and he shall make reports on the condition of the general treasury when called for by the Commander-in-Chief. He shall make a report to each General Convention, showing the work performed by his office, and the conditions and prospects of the Confederation, with such recommendations as he may deem proper. He shall perform such other duties as are usually incidental to the office. He shall be a member of the General Executive Council, as prescribed in Article VI, Section 3, hereinabove.

Section 6. The Executive Director shall, with the approval of the General Executive Council, employ any and all clerical and other help necessary for the proper conduct of the business of the International Headquarters. He shall collect and be the custodian of the operating funds of the General Organization; sign all checks disbursing its funds and he shall perform such other duties as may be directed by the Commander-in-Chief and/or the General Executive Council. The Executive Director and any clerical employees who handle the operating funds of the Confederation shall be bonded in an amount to be fixed by the General Executive Council.

Section 7. The Chief of Staff shall be responsible for carrying out the orders of the Commander-in-Chief, for supervising the organization and proper functioning of the Confederation, as well as coordinating the work of the General Staff. He shall, under the direction of the Commander-in-Chief, issue general and special orders and instructions as required, and perform such other duties as may be assigned to him by the Commander-in-Chief, while carrying on the normal functions generally assumed by a Chief of Staff. He shall be a member of the General Executive Council. At each General Convention he shall make an annual report on the condition and functioning of the Confederation, together with such recommendations as he may deem proper.

Section 8. The Quartermaster-in-Chief shall set standards and establish the requirements for the accommodations of the International Headquarters at the General Convention. He shall advise and consult with the Commander(s) of the Host Camp(s) with regard to the satisfactory completion of the arrangements, and perform such other duties as the Commander-in-Chief may direct.

Section 9. The Inspector-in-Chief shall prescribe the form of blanks to be used for the inspection of Camps, and with the approval of the Commander-in-Chief give such special instructions as may be deemed necessary. He shall have charge of all investigations ordered for infractions of the Constitution by the Camps, or for conduct of any Camp or individual referred to him by the Commander-in-Chief, and may present a report to the General Convention.

Section 10. The Surgeon-in-Chief shall perform the duties properly appertaining to his office, and may present at the General Convention a report or paper on matters relating to the medical and surgical branch of the Confederate Service.

Section 11. The Judge Advocate-in-Chief shall advise the General Officers and the General Executive Council on all legal matters, including the construction and interpretation of the General Constitution, and shall perform such other duties as are usually incident to the office. He may present at the General Convention a report and a paper on the history of his Department of the Confederate Service. He shall be a member of the General Executive Council.

Section 12. The Chaplain-in-Chief shall open and close with prayer the General Conventions and other meetings, and perform such divine and non-sectarian services as may be necessary in connection with the office. He shall present to the General Convention a written report or paper upon the matters relating to his branch of the Confederate Service.

Section 13. The Historian-in-Chief shall collect from year to year all records and data of value and interest for the International Headquarters of the Sons of Confederate Veterans and shall compile during his term of office a complete history of the year's activities. He shall also assist Division and Camp Historians so as to coordinate and unify the work of these officials, and shall have such other duties as the General Executive Council shall prescribe.

## ***ARTICLE VIII - GENERAL EXECUTIVE COUNCIL***

Section 1. Between General Conventions, the administrative power shall be vested in the General Executive Council, which shall be composed of the Commander-in-Chief, the Lieutenant Commander-in-Chief, the Chief of Staff, the Adjutant-in-Chief, the Judge Advocate-in-Chief, the Editor-in-Chief, the Chaplain-in-Chief, the three Department Commanders, in addition to one member from each Department, and the three preceding Past Commanders-in-Chief. This section becomes effective immediately upon enactment.

Section 2. The General Executive Council shall be charged with the performance of the duties elsewhere prescribed in the Constitution, and shall have all other necessary power in the administration and regulation of the affairs of the Confederation, not especially delegated to or made a part of the duties of some other official or committee.

Section 3. The term of office of all members of the General Executive Council shall commence immediately upon adjournment of the General Convention at which they were elected to office, and shall end at the adjournment of the General Convention at which their terms expire; and provided further that the retiring members shall remain in command until every function of the General Convention at which their terms expire is discharged. This section becomes effective immediately upon enactment.

Section 4. Notwithstanding other provisions of this Article, any General Executive Council member who has not attended a regularly scheduled meeting of the General Executive Council for a year or more shall be designated as a Member Emeritus and shall no longer have voting privileges at General Executive Council meetings or at the General Convention nor shall he count against the quorum for General Executive Council meetings. Members Emeritus shall be entitled to all other rights and privileges accorded regular members of the General Executive Council. Members Emeritus shall continue to hold this rank so long as they would otherwise be eligible to be a member of the General Executive Council. "Regularly scheduled meetings" are defined as those called at least 30 days in advance by the Commander-in-Chief.

Section 5. Any Member Emeritus may request in writing that he be reinstated as a regular member of the General Executive Council within two years of his designation as a Member Emeritus, if he is otherwise eligible for General Executive Council membership. A four-fifths majority vote of the GEC is required for reinstatement of regular members status.

Section 6. All regular members of the General Executive Council shall be delegates to the General Convention with vote.

Section 7. The General Executive Council shall meet at the place of the General Convention within twenty-four hours after the final adjournment thereof; thereafter, the Commander-in-Chief shall call a meeting at such time as may seem to him proper or upon the written request of three members of said Council.

Section 8. The General Executive Council shall fix the salary and expenses of officers and shall provide for the appointment and employment of such subordinate officers and employees as may be

needed for the administration of the affairs of the Sons of Confederate Veterans, and prescribe their duties and emoluments.

Section 9. All questions affecting the election, eligibility and conduct of General Officers shall be referred to and determined by the General Executive Council. All questions affecting the election, eligibility and conduct of the Division Officers, except as hereinafter provided, shall be referred to and determined by the General Executive Council, which shall be the final authority thereon.

Section 10. The General Executive Council shall fix the prices for badges, emblems, books, commissions, certificates and blanks required and issued by the Confederation and not otherwise prescribed herein; provide for the collection of relics and the permanent preservation of the archives of the organization; and provide for the regular publication, in its discretion, by the General Organization of a newspaper or periodical to be conducted in the interest of the Confederation and for the purpose of preserving and disseminating records, facts and incidents pertaining to the War Between the States.

Section 11.

(a) The General Executive Council shall have concurrent power to suspend or expel a member from the Sons of Confederate Veterans upon proper showing of cause. Charges shall be based upon disloyalty, neglect of duty, dishonesty, conduct unbecoming a member of the Sons of Confederate Veterans or the commission of an act repugnant to this Constitution or detrimental to the objects and purposes of the Confederation; provided that at least fifteen days notice of such proposed action shall have been given to such member by certified mail, and that the member is given an opportunity to be heard. The effective date of a suspension or expulsion pursuant to this Section shall be five days after a decision is rendered by the General Executive Council. Any member who has been suspended or expelled by the General Executive Council has the right of appeal to the next General Convention, the decision of which shall be final.

(b) The General Executive Council may hear appeals from members or officers that have been disciplined by Camps or Divisions.

(c) Any appeal by a member of the Sons of Confederate Veterans of a disciplinary action to the General Executive Council must be made in writing to the General Executive Council within 60 days of the date of receipt of Notice by the member of the disciplinary decision. Failure to appeal by the member within the above-described 60-day period shall cause a disciplinary decision to become final. "Date of Receipt of Notice" is defined as the day a copy of the disciplinary decision is placed in the United States Mail addressed to a member so disciplined at his last known address by certified mail, return receipt requested.

Section 12. A majority of the members shall constitute a quorum of the General Executive Council.



## ***ARTICLE IX - DEPARTMENTS-DIVISIONS-BRIGADES***

Section 1. The Camps shall be organized by Departments, Divisions and Brigades.

Section 2. There shall be three Departments, to be called: Army of Northern Virginia Department, Army of Tennessee Department, and Army of Trans-Mississippi Department.

Section 3. Department Commanders shall be allowed the same regular staff as the Commander-in-Chief and such assistants and aides as they deem necessary, but they shall be known as Lieutenant Department Commander, Department Adjutant, Department Quartermaster, etc., including three geographic Corps Commanders (Central, East, and West) for the Army of Trans-Mississippi.

Section 4. The Army of Northern Virginia Department shall include and be formed of the States of Virginia, Maryland, West Virginia, North Carolina, South Carolina, the District of Columbia and those states located east of the State of Ohio and north of the State of Virginia.

Section 5. The Army of Tennessee Department shall include and be formed of the States of Georgia, Alabama, Tennessee, Kentucky, Mississippi, and Florida and those states not included in the other two Departments.

Section 6. The Army of Trans-Mississippi Department shall include and be formed of all the States located west of the Mississippi River, including but not limited to Alaska, Arizona, Arkansas, California, Colorado, Kansas, Louisiana, Missouri, Nebraska, New Mexico, Oklahoma, Oregon, Texas, Utah, Washington, etc. and be divided into three geographic Army Corps known as the: Central, Eastern, and Western.

Section 7. Each and every State and Territory having within its boundaries five (5) or more Camps regularly organized and chartered shall constitute a Division, and no State or Territory shall have more than one Division within its boundaries.

Section 8. Camps in States or Territories where there are less than five (5) Camps shall report directly to the International Headquarters, but where there are at least two (2) active Camps in a State, the Commander-in-Chief, at his discretion, may form them into a Division, he appointing the Division Commander until they attain the required number of Camps to entitle them to organize themselves.

Section 9. Each Division shall be subdivided into Brigades, as provided in Article X, Section 7.

## ***ARTICLE X - DIVISION ORGANIZATION***

Section 1. Each Division shall hold annually a convention of the Camps comprising the Division at a time and place to be fixed by the preceding Division Convention or by the Division Commander. The Division Commander shall give the Commander of his Department, the Commander-in-Chief and the Camps of his Division at least thirty days' written notice of the time and place of the annual Division Convention.

Section 2. The Division Convention shall elect a Division Commander, a Lieutenant Division Commander and Brigade Commanders to serve for a period of one year or, following the precedent set by International Headquarters, may elect such officers to serve for two years.

Section 3. Division Commanders shall be allowed the same regular staff as the Department Commander, but they shall be known as Division Adjutant, Division Inspector, etc.

Section 4. The fiscal year of the Divisions shall be the same as the Confederation. All Division officers hereafter elected shall begin their term of office immediately after the adjournment of the convention following their election, and shall serve until their successors are chosen and qualify, provided that the time of taking office shall be arranged so as to give all officers of the Division an opportunity to attend one convention of the General Organization.

Section 5. Division Commanders shall command Divisions. They shall apply themselves in organizing their States or Territories into Camps; they shall be careful to have all the requirements of the Constitution strictly complied with in the formation of Camps; be intermediary in their relation with General and Department Headquarters, and see to the execution of all orders received therefrom; assist the Department Commanders by counsel or otherwise. They shall promptly transmit to General and Department Headquarters copies of all general and special orders, and all circulars, circular letters and other literature which may be issued by them.

Section 6. In case a Division which has elected a Division Commander shall fail to hold an annual Division Convention or to elect a successor in case the Division Convention is held, a vacancy shall be deemed to exist which may be filled in like manner as other vacancies.

Section 7. Each Division shall be subdivided by Districts or other convenient subdivisions into as many Brigades as shall be deemed advisable by the Division Convention. Brigade Commanders shall be elected by the Division Convention at the same time and in the same manner as the Division Commander. However, a Division is neither required to permit nor prohibit delegates representing those camps outside a Brigade from voting for the commander of that Brigade. Each Brigade Commander may appoint an Adjutant to assist him in his work and other staff members to assist him in his work.

Section 8. Between Division Conventions, the administrative power shall be vested in the Division Executive Council, which shall be composed of the Division Commander, Lieutenant Division Commander, the Division Adjutant, Brigade Commanders, and such other persons as the Division Convention may prescribe.

Section 9. Divisions may levy additional fees and per capita tax upon their Camps for their own purposes to meet internal expenses; same to be paid to their headquarters direct.

Section 10. Each Division of the Sons of Confederate Veterans shall be the judge of its own membership, subject to the restrictions of this Constitution.

## ***ARTICLE XI - CAMP ORGANIZATION***

Section 1. Seven or more persons in possession of the prescribed eligibility qualifications may make application upon blanks furnished by International Headquarters to the General Organization for permission to form a Camp.

Section 2. When the application for charter of the applying Camp has been examined and found to be correct, and when the application is accompanied by a charter fee, recording fees and per capita tax as required herein and it has been ascertained that all conditions have been complied with, the charter will be granted, which shall be signed by the Commander-in-Chief and the Adjutant-in-Chief.

Section 3. Before any Camp is admitted, it must appear from the application for charter that individual membership applications are on file at local headquarters, in proper form, true copies of which shall be filed with International Headquarters.

Section 4. The minimum members of the Camp shall be seven.

Section 5. It is recommended that all Camps hold regular meetings at least once each month.

Section 6. In the business and work of Camps all the books, blanks and forms in use shall be of such form and style as may be prescribed by International Headquarters.

Section 7. On enumerating active members of Camps for representation, none shall be counted who are thus enumerated in another Camp of the Confederation. Membership in more than one Camp is not forbidden, but no Compatriot shall be borne on the rolls of more than one Camp for the purposes of enumeration and representation. When a Compatriot is a member of more than one Camp, he shall elect in which one he will be enrolled for representation.

Section 8. Each Camp shall elect the following officers: a Commander, a First Lieutenant Commander, an Adjutant, a Chaplain, and a Treasurer, provided that, if the Camp prefers, the Adjutant may be appointed by the Commander. Additional officers may be appointed or elected as desired.

Section 9. Camp officers shall be elected to serve for a period of one year or, following the precedent set by International Headquarters to serve for two years, and they shall continue to serve until successors are elected and qualified.

Section 10. All Camps will be permitted to retain their local and state organizations, and they shall have the full enjoyment of the right to govern themselves, provided that they shall be subject to this Constitution and amendments thereof.

Section 11. Camp officers shall have their duties defined by the Constitution of the Camps that create them, provided the duties so defined are not in conflict with the provisions of this Constitution.

Section 12. No Camp shall take part or vote in Division Conventions unless said Camp is in good standing with the General Confederation and has paid the recording fees and per capita tax on all its

members prescribed by this Constitution or the General Confederation; and provided further, that it has paid the per capita tax, dues and fees levied upon Camps by the Division Convention.

Section 13. Camps in arrears for four months in payment of recording fees and per capita taxes upon its members to the General Confederation (or dues levied by the Division) shall be classed as delinquent and six months' arrearage shall automatically impose suspension from all privileges of the Confederation.

Section 14. No Camp in any State where a Division has been formed in accordance with the provisions of this Constitution may attempt or be permitted to withdraw from the Division and continue its activities as a separate Camp representing the Sons of Confederate Veterans.

## ***ARTICLE XII - ANNUAL REPORTS***

Section 1. Each Camp Commander shall make an annual report, in duplicate, utilizing forms furnished by International Headquarters, giving such information as may be required by the General Executive Council. Reports must be submitted by July 1 (June 24 after the 2006 General Convention) (June 20 after the 2007 General Convention), one copy forwarded to the Division Commander, the other to International Headquarters. A Camp in a separate Brigade will send a copy to the Division to which the Brigade is attached. Separate Camps in States where no Divisions have been formed will send a copy to the Army Commander of their Department. The report will include a Camp roster and payment of any per capita taxes not previously submitted to International Headquarters. In addition, at his discretion, the Camp Commander may submit a final report at the expiration of his term of office.

Section 2. Division Commanders shall make an annual report, in duplicate, using forms furnished by International Headquarters, giving such information as may be required by the General Executive Council. Reports must be submitted by July 15 (July 8 after the 2006 General Convention) (July 5 after the 2007 General Convention), one copy to be mailed to the Army Commander of the Department in which the Division is located, the other to International Headquarters. At his discretion the Division Commander may submit a final report at the expiration of his term of office.

Section 3. Department Commanders shall make an annual report, in duplicate, summarizing the information contained in their Camp and Division reports and commenting on the conditions of their Departments. Reports must be submitted by July 25 (July 18 after the 2006 General convention) (July 15 after the 2007 General\_Convention), one copy to International Headquarters and one copy to the Chief of Staff who will prepare an abstract of the reports received from the Departments for transmittal with them to the Commander-in-Chief for his information.

### ***ARTICLE XIII - FINANCE***

Section 1. The revenue of the Sons of Confederate Veterans shall be derived from recording fees, annual membership, per capita taxes and from such other sources as may be approved by the General Executive Council.

Section 2. A yearly per capita tax shall be paid by each Camp for every active member in good standing, and a recording fee of \$5.00 for all new members upon admission into a Camp, and the amount of such per capita tax shall be determined by the General Convention. The General Executive Council may recommend that the amount of the annual per capita tax be increased or decreased.

Section 3. As used in this Section, in Article XI, Section 13, Article XIV, Section 2, in Article XV, Section 4, and in Article XIX, Section 1, "transmitted to" shall mean delivery by hand, postmarked by the United States Postal Service or received by a private courier. Any new member whose per capita tax and recording fee or any former or suspended member seeking reinstatement whose per capita tax and reinstatement fee are not transmitted to International Headquarters by July 1 (June 24 after the 2006 General Convention) (June 20 after the 2007 General Convention)\_shall not be in "good standing" for the purposes of Article XIX, Section 1.

Section 4. The recording fee and per capita tax of new members shall be remitted to International Headquarters within ten (10) days after member joins said Camp.

Section 5. The fiscal year of the Confederation shall be from the end of one General Convention to the end of the next General Convention.

Section 6. A proposed annual budget shall be annually approved by the General Executive Council and submitted to the General Convention for approval.

Section 7. An audit of the funds of the Confederation shall be conducted annually by a reputable Certified Public Accountant to be approved by the General Convention.

Section 8. Upon acceptance for membership into a Camp, new members shall pay the full yearly per capita tax for the initial membership plus any required fees, except that men who join during the third (3rd) quarter of the fiscal year (February, March, and April) may elect to pay ten more dollars (\$10) for two (2) additional quarters of membership; and men who join during the fourth (4th) quarter of the fiscal year (May, June, and July) may elect to pay five more dollars (\$5) for one (1) additional quarter of membership which pays their membership for both the year in which they join and also the next fiscal year.

### ***ARTICLE XIV - PENALTIES - CHARTERS - SUSPENSIONS, ETC.***

Section 1. Suspension of the charter of a Camp shall not affect the membership in the Sons of Confederate Veterans of Compatriots of such Camp, nor impair their tenure of office or eligibility as officers therein during such suspension.

Section 2. If any Camp shall fail to transmit the annual per capita tax and, if applicable, recording fees or reinstatement fees for at least seven members to International Headquarters by the deadline established in Article XIII, Section 3, its charter shall be suspended, and if any Camp shall fail to do so for two consecutive years, its charter may be revoked by the General Executive Council, provided always that a suspended Camp may be reinstated upon the payment to the General Organization of the current per capita tax on its entire membership and a reinstatement fee of \$5.00 per member; provided, further, that a Camp whose charter has been revoked shall be admitted upon the same condition and upon the payment of the same dues and fees, etc., as a new Camp.

Section 3. Any Camp failing to meet the obligations imposed upon it by the Constitution, allowing political or religious discussions, or taking any such actions therein, or ceasing function for two years in succession as a Sons of Confederate Veterans Camp, or refusing to pay the per capita tax and other fees due the Division or General Organization, or doing an act repugnant to this Constitution or detrimental to the objects and purposes of the Confederation shall, upon order of the General Executive Council, surrender its charter. Upon failure to surrender such charter, immediate steps may be taken for its revocation.

Section 4. Reinstatement for suspension shall take effect immediately upon receipt by the Commander-in-Chief of evidence of the removal by the suspended Camp of its cause of suspension.

Section 5. During the interim between General Conventions, the Commander-in-Chief shall have the power to suspend any Camp or officer for conduct detrimental to the Confederation upon proper proof; said action to be reported to the next General Convention for permanent sentence.

Section 6. Any camp suspended pursuant to Article XI, Section 13 and/or Section 2 of this Article, shall thereafter be carried upon the rolls and published in the minutes as a suspended Camp. Upon the payment of all arrearages and penalties a suspended Camp shall be restored to the active roll.

Section 7. Any camp whose charter has been suspended or revoked shall not be entitled to any rights and privileges of the Confederation. Any member suspended for non-payment of dues shall be denied all benefits of membership pending the removal of the factors that caused the suspension. The Commander-in-Chief is charged with the duty of working with the Camp or member to remove the factors that necessitated the suspension.

Section 8. Upon the failure, neglect or refusal of any Department Commander or any Division Commander in office, by election or otherwise, to perform any of the duties enjoined by this Constitution, or required by resolution or action of any convention, or required by lawful order of the Commander-in-Chief, the Commander-in-Chief shall have the authority, and it shall be his duty, after ten days' notice, to suspend such officer, giving prompt notice thereof, with specific reasons therefor, to be sent to the suspended officer by registered mail. In case the said officer shall desire an investigation of the grounds of suspension, he shall make a demand therefor within ten days after the receipt of said notice. Thereupon the Commander-in-Chief shall appoint a committee of three Compatriots no one of whom shall reside in the Division in which he or the suspended officer resides. To this committee the Commander-in-Chief shall submit his orders of suspension, with the reasons in support thereof, together with copies of any papers, documents or correspondence or other testimony bearing thereon which he may desire, and the accused shall submit his defense in writing, with the testimony in writing upon which he relies to support the same. After consideration the committee shall



within thirty days make a report in writing to the Commander-in-Chief, with a recommendation either sustaining the order of suspension, or finding that it is not supported. In the latter contingency the suspended officer shall be at once restored to his office in formal orders; but in case the suspension is sustained, the office shall be thereby vacant, and such vacancy shall be promptly filled by the Commander-in-Chief.

Section 9. Upon the failure of any Department Commander, Division or Camp Commander, whether elected or appointed, to send in the reports as required in Article XII, without reasons satisfactory to the Commander-in-Chief, he shall stand suspended, and the Commander-in-Chief shall at once appoint a Compatriot to fill the unexpired term.

Section 10. The General Executive Council, after notice and a hearing, may suspend or revoke the charter of a Division which violates this Constitution, or which fails adequately to discipline any of its Camps for any such violation, and may provide for the government and administration of such Division during such suspension or upon such revocation.

## ***ARTICLE XV - DISCIPLINE OF CAMP MEMBERS***

Section 1. Each Camp of the Sons of Confederate Veterans shall be the judge of its own membership, subject to the restrictions of this Constitution.

Section 2. Members may be suspended or expelled from the Sons of Confederate Veterans only upon a proper showing of cause. Charges shall be based upon disloyalty, neglect of duty, dishonesty, conduct unbecoming a member of the Sons of Confederate Veterans or the commission of an act repugnant to this Constitution; provided, that at least fifteen days notice of such proposed action shall have been given to such members by certified mail, and that the member is given an opportunity to be heard. The effective date of a suspension or expulsion pursuant to this Section shall be five days after a decision is rendered by a camp.

Section 3. Any member who has been suspended or expelled has the right of appeal to the Division General Executive Council. A member expelled by a Camp is ineligible for membership in any other Camp of this Confederation.

Section 4. Any member whose per capita tax for any fiscal year is not transmitted to International Headquarters by November 1 of that fiscal year shall be automatically suspended. Suspended members and former members may be reinstated to full membership upon payment to International Headquarters of a reinstatement fee of \$5.00 and payment of the full per capita tax for the fiscal year during which the member is reinstated. Thereafter, a reinstated member shall be liable for the per capita tax for succeeding fiscal years at the same time as other renewing members.

## ***ARTICLE XVI - PROHIBITIONS***

Section 1. No discussion of religious subjects, nor any discussion of political subjects that are identifiable with a political party, nor any endorsement of aspirants for political office, nor any political action except as set forth in Article II, Section 2, shall be permitted in any organization of the Sons of Confederate Veterans or the General Confederation.

Section 2. No debts shall be contracted by this Confederation except upon approval of the General Executive Council.

Section 3. No assessment shall be levied upon its members other than the recording fees and the per capita tax, except by resolution of the General Convention; or by action of the Division Conventions acting under the authority of Article X, Section 9, hereinbefore.

Section 4. The use of the seal, badges or name of this Confederation for business or advertising purposes and the giving of its badges to persons unauthorized to wear them are emphatically prohibited.

Section 5. Military titles used in the Confederate Army or Navy shall not be given to or used by members or officers of this Confederation, by reason of their being such members or officers.

Section 6. No one can be elected or appointed an officer of this Confederation, or its subordinate Departments, Divisions or Brigades, unless he is a member in good standing of one of its Camps.

Section 7. No legal action against or on behalf of the Sons of Confederate Veterans, its officers and/or members shall be undertaken or entered into by any member of the Sons of Confederate Veterans in which that member proposes to act as a representative or agent of the Sons of Confederate Veterans without prior approval of the General Executive Council. If a proposed legal action is presented to the General Executive Council for approval, the petition shall be distributed in writing to all members of the Council prior to the filing of the same. The petition shall state the name(s) and address(es) of the party (parties) against whom the petition is proposed to be filed. The affirmative vote of the members of the Council shall be necessary for Council approval of such legal action. If any legal action is filed without the approval of the Council, the member(s) filing such action shall be subject to expulsion from the Sons of Confederate Veterans in accordance with the provisions of this Constitution which relate to expulsion of members.

## ***ARTICLE XVII - SEAL-BADGES-MEMORIAL DAY, ETC.***

Section 1. The seal of the Confederation shall be a medal of the same dimensions as that of the "United Confederate Veterans," reproducing the great seal of the Confederate States of America, bearing the words "SONS OF CONFEDERATE VETERANS, Richmond, VA, July 1, 1896," inscribed between the wreath and margin; it shall be kept in the custody of the Adjutant-in-Chief.

Section 2. The badge of this Confederation shall be a square three-quarters of an inch across, the center to contain the Battle Flag of the Confederacy, one-half inch square, enameled in its proper colors; on each of the four sides of the flag shall be painted bars one-eighth of an inch wide, and one-half of an inch long, and to contain, beginning at the left, the title of the organization, arranged in three equal divisions, and the date, "1896", on the bottom bar; the letters to be in gold, bars to be in white, with a narrow gold rim around the edges. The badges shall be ordered through the Adjutant-in-Chief.

Section 3. A neat, inexpensive button, bearing a representation of the foregoing, may be provided by the Commander-in-Chief and furnished to the members at as low a price as possible.

Section 4. It shall be the duty of the Commander of every Camp of the Sons of Confederate Veterans to call a meeting of his respective Camp upon the days appointed by the civil authorities for the commemoration of any Confederate soldier, sailor or statesman, and to commemorate such day by appropriate services.

Section 5. This Confederation shall observe, with proper solemnity, all Confederate Memorial Days, whether designated by civil authority or local custom.

Section 6. The official Flag of the Sons of Confederate Veterans shall be the Battle Flag of the Confederate States of America.

Section 7. March 4<sup>th</sup> of each year shall be designated and recognized as Confederate Flag Day. All Compatriots are encouraged to fly the current Confederate National Flag or any Confederate Flag of their choice.

## ***ARTICLE XVIII - COMMITTEES***

Section 1. There shall be four standing committees, appointed by the Commander-in-Chief, upon his election, to consist of one member from each Division, and one to represent the Camps outside the former Confederate States, as follows:

Section 2. Historical Committee, which shall have charge of all matters relating to the literary and historical purposes of this Confederation;

Section 3. Relief Committee, which shall have charge of all matters relating to relief, pensions, homes and other benevolent purposes of this Confederation;

Section 4. Monument Committee, which shall have charge of all matters relating to monuments, graves and the Confederation's objects and purposes in these respects; and

Section 5. Finance Committee, which shall verify accounts of officers, and attend to such other matters of finance as may be referred to it.

Section 6. The committees may subdivide themselves for purposes of facilitating their labors, and shall keep a record of their meetings, make reports annually, or more often, if required by the Commander-in-Chief, and shall turn over their record to the Adjutant-in-Chief at the expiration of their term of office.

Section 7. Special committees may be appointed by the Commander-in-Chief as he deems necessary, and shall be appointed by him when so ordered by the General Convention or by the General Executive Council.

Section 8. There shall be a committee known as the Credentials Committee. The members of the Committee, which shall include the Adjutant-in-Chief, shall be appointed prior to the commencement of Registration at the General Convention. There shall be not less than five (5) nor more than nine (9) members of the Committee. There shall be sufficient members of the Committee to be present at the Registration desk at the General Convention at all times during the published times of Registration. This Committee shall receive the Credential forms from the Camps at Registration for the General Convention, verify the Credentials by report of the Adjutant-in-Chief, arrange the roll of the Convention and assign each Camp its number of votes. This report shall be signed by the committee and handed to the Commander-in-Chief. After the approval of this report, the meeting shall proceed to business on the basis fixed therein. The Credentials Committee shall have charge of the process of balloting for officers when elections occur in accordance with this Constitution.

Section 9. There shall be a standing committee known as the Investment Committee. The Investment Committee shall be composed of three members who shall be appointed by the Commander-in-Chief and confirmed by the General Executive Council. Without in any way implying or creating any legal liability on the part of the Commander-in-Chief, he shall diligently seek as appointees persons who, while not necessarily professional financial managers, are thoroughly qualified by their experience to be financial managers. Initially, the Commander-in-Chief shall appoint members to the Committee with terms of three years, two years and one year, respectively. Thereafter, the term of office of the

members of the Committee shall be three years with one term expiring at the adjournment of each General Convention; provided that the members of the Committee shall serve, and be competent to act, until their successors shall have been duly appointed and confirmed. If any member of the Committee shall be unable to serve his full term because of death, resignation or disability, the Commander-in-Chief shall appoint, subject to confirmation by the General Executive Council, a Compatriot to fill the unexpired term. The General Executive Council shall have the power, by a two-thirds (2/3) vote, to find and determine the existence of disability for the purpose of this Section. The Committee shall be the trustees of all funds of the Confederation except the Operating Fund. The Committee shall have full power, subject to the control of the General Executive Council, to invest and reinvest said funds and to hold, purchase, sell, assign, transfer or dispose of any of the securities and investments in which such moneys shall have been invested, as well as the proceeds of such investments and such moneys, except as may otherwise be limited by this Constitution; provided that not more than five percent (5%) of the admitted assets of the organization may be invested in the common stock of any one corporation. The Investment Committee may meet in person, by telephone or by mail. In exercising its powers and authority, the members of the Investment Committee shall exercise ordinary business care and prudence under the facts and circumstances prevailing at the time of the action or decision. In so doing, the Committee shall consider the long-and short-term needs of the organization in carrying out its purposes, the organization's present and anticipated financial requirements, the expected total return on the organization's investments, general economic conditions, income, growth, long-term net appreciation and probable safety of funds. No member of the Investment Committee shall be liable for any action taken or omitted with respect to the exercise of these powers and authority if such member shall have discharged the duties of his position in good faith with that degree of diligence, care and skill which prudent men would ordinarily exercise under similar conditions. The Investment Committee shall also function in accordance with the following provisions:

(a) It shall be the responsibility of the Commander-in-Chief and the Executive Director, in consultation, to determine the amount of moneys to be transferred from the Operating Fund to the Endowment Fund at the end of a fiscal year. Said transfer shall be subject to the advance approval of the General Executive Council.

(b) The income on the invested funds of the Confederation shall be added to the principal of said funds at the end of each fiscal year of the Confederation; provided that any part of said income not to exceed three-fourths thereof may, on the approval of the General Executive Council, by majority vote thereof, be used for the general purposes of the Confederation.

(c) The principal of, and the income on, the invested funds of the Confederation may, on the approval of a two-thirds (2/3) affirmative vote of the General Executive Council, be used for unusual expenditures.

(d) The funds of the Confederation, not including the Operating Fund, shall be invested in real property and the improvements thereon, income-producing securities listed on exchanges regulated by the United States Securities and Exchange Commission (SEC) or in banking institutions whose deposits are insured by the Federal Deposit Insurance Corporation (FDIC).

(e) Special Purpose Endowment Funds may be established by amending this Section to provide therefor. The Investment Committee shall be authorized to commingle and jointly

invest two or more of said funds for the purpose of more efficient investment or more favorable return; provided that a separate accounting of the principal and income of each fund is maintained at all times.

(f) The Investment Committee shall, with the assistance of International Headquarters if requested, prepare a written report on the status of the invested funds and activities of the Committee for each regular meeting of the General Executive Council and each General Convention and provide copies of said report for those in attendance at said meetings.

Section 10. Heritage Defense Committee. The Heritage Defense Committee shall be composed of 6 proactive members of the SCV and a Chairman. The members of the Heritage Defense Committee shall be selected by the Commander-in-Chief. The Heritage Defense Committee shall strongly advance positions and take action as necessary in the defense and preservation of Confederate heritage.

Section 11. All committees shall meet when called by their chairman. Standing committees shall make written annual reports and recommendations to the General Convention. Special committees shall submit written reports to the Commander-in-Chief as soon as they have performed the duties assigned them.

## ***ARTICLE XIX - REPRESENTATION-DELEGATES-VOTING***

Section 1. The representation of the various Camps at the annual General, Department, Division and Brigade Conventions shall be by delegates, as follows: One delegate for every ten (10) active members in good standing in the Camp and one additional for a fraction thereof of five (5) or more; provided, that every Camp in good standing shall be entitled to at least two (2) delegates. Except for Divisions which may fix their own internal representation, each delegation must have a letter of credentials signed by the Camp Commander or Adjutant, or they cannot be recognized. Such letter shall name the Chairman of the delegation and the names of the other delegates authorized to represent the Camp. If the Chairman of the delegation named is not in attendance at the convention, those delegates in attendance are hereby authorized to elect a Chairman from their number. If any delegate named in the letter of credentials is not in attendance, the Chairman of the delegation is hereby authorized to appoint a substitute to serve in his place from among the members of the Camp in attendance who have not already been named as delegates. All delegates must be in good standing in the Camp they represent. For the purposes of representation and voting at General Conventions, a member or delegate is not in "good standing" if his annual per capita tax and, if applicable, recording fee or reinstatement fee was not transmitted to International Headquarters by the deadline established in Article XIII, Section 3. For the purposes of representation and voting at General Conventions, a camp is not in "good standing" if the annual per capita tax and, if applicable, recording fees or reinstatement fees for at least seven members was not transmitted to International Headquarters by the deadline established in Article XIII, Section 3.

Section 2. At the General Convention each Camp shall be entitled to cast the number of votes equal to the number of delegates to which it is entitled whether or not it has that number of delegates in attendance. In the event that all of the delegates to which the Camp is entitled are not in attendance, the number of votes which the Camp is entitled to cast shall be prorated among the Camp's delegates present, if more than one. If only one delegate is present, that delegate shall be entitled to cast the total number of votes to which his Camp is entitled as hereinbefore stated.

Section 3. Nothing in the above section shall be considered as binding upon Divisions and their methods of voting at Division Conventions. They may adopt the above procedure or prescribe their own method of counting votes at Division Conventions.

Section 4. Headquarters Camp shall not be entitled to vote.

Section 5. The Commander-in-Chief, Department, Division and Brigade Commanders and their Adjutants shall be ex-officio members of the annual conventions.

Section 6. A camp that is not in "good standing" as defined in Section 1 of this Article shall not be allowed any representation at the General Convention.



## ***ARTICLE XX - VOTING***

Section 1. In all questions submitted to the meeting, the chair shall put the question for a viva voce vote. If the roll of Camps shall be called for, then the Camps shall be called in order, the number of votes each is entitled to stated, and the vote for and against the motion announced by the chairman of each delegation.

Section 2. Balloting shall be by Camps, the chairman of the delegation depositing the written ballots for the Camp, where written ballots are required.

Section 3. When there is but one candidate for an office, upon motion, and by unanimous consent, a formal ballot may be dispensed with, and the candidate be elected by acclamation. In an election for any office for which there is more than one candidate, voting shall be by secret ballot. Voting shall take place in a separate function room at the General Convention hotel at which the business sessions are held and shall be conducted under the supervision of the Credentials Committee. Voting for all contested offices shall take place at one time. Balloting shall be by Camps. The Chairman of a Camp delegation shall present the portion of the Credential form which has been initialed by a member of the Credentials Committee and returned to the Compatriot who presented the form at Registration. In return, the Chairman of the Camp delegation shall receive a ballot from the Credentials Committee on which is marked the total number of votes which may be cast on that ballot. The Camp delegation, or its Chairman, shall mark the ballot, place the same into the ballot box and depart the voting room. A Compatriot voting by virtue of office, as provided for herein, shall follow the procedure outlined herein except that it shall not be necessary for that Compatriot to furnish a Credential form. Upon completion of the voting procedure the Credentials Committee shall be the Tellers and shall count the votes. The candidates may designate watchers to witness the counting of the votes. The results of the election shall be placed in the custody of the Chairman of the Credentials Committee who shall announce the results when called upon by the Commander-in-Chief. In balloting for officers, a majority of all votes cast shall be necessary to elect. In any election in which a majority is not received by a candidate, the two candidates who receive the most votes shall be voted on in accordance with the procedure described herein until one candidate receives a majority of the votes cast.

Section 4. Each Department and Division shall have two votes in all cases. Said votes may be cast by the respective Commanders, if present; if not, by the Camp in the Department or Division (as the case may be) having a delegate present with the largest number of votes certified by the Adjutant-in-Chief. Past Commanders-in-Chief and members of the General Executive Council shall have one vote each in all cases.

Section 5. The ayes and nays may be required and entered upon the record at the call of any seven (7) delegates from different Camps.

Section 6. There shall be no voting by proxy in any General, Department, Division or Brigade Convention.

## ***ARTICLE XXI - OFFICIAL LADIES***

Section 1. The Commander-in-Chief may appoint the following ladies to represent the Confederation for General Conventions and for such other occasions as he may deem advisable: Matron-in-Chief, Chaperon-in-Chief, Sponsor-in-Chief, and three Maids of Honor-in-Chief, provided he may make additional appointments not to exceed six ladies, who reside in the city and state where the General Convention is held.

Section 2. Department Commanders, Division, Brigade and Camp Commanders may appoint only the following ladies to represent their Departments, Divisions, Brigades and Camps, respectively, for General Conventions, and for such other occasions as they may deem wise: Matron of Honor, Chaperon, Sponsor and three Maids of Honor; provided they may make additional appointments not to exceed six ladies who reside in the city and state where the Convention is held.

## ***ARTICLE XXII - INTERNATIONAL HEADQUARTERS***

Section 1. The International Headquarters of the Confederation shall be located at Elm Springs, Columbia, Maury County, Tennessee.

Section 2. The official archives and records of the Confederation, together with all books, manuscripts, relics and other historical materials brought together under its direction, shall be kept at International Headquarters. They shall be carefully arranged, classified, indexed and displayed and they shall at all times be open to the use and inspection of any member or members of the Confederation.

### ***ARTICLE XXIII - COMMISSIONS-CERTIFICATES, ETC.***

Section 1. The Confederation shall issue commissions upon request to all its officers, General, Department, Division, Brigade, Camp and Staff, certificates of membership to Camps joining this Confederation, and to the individual members thereof. All such documents are to be issued by the Adjutant-in-Chief, upon direction of the Commander-in-Chief, and shall be signed by these two officers and bear the seal of the Confederation.

Section 2. The cost of commissions for officers shall be borne by the officers to whom issued. The cost of membership certificates issued to members shall be included in the fees set by the Camp for admission into the Camp.

#### ***ARTICLE XXIV - CHANGE OF RESIDENCE***

Section 1. Any member in good standing in a Camp removing from his Division or Camp shall be entitled to a certificate from his Camp stating his membership and the duration thereof.

## ***ARTICLE XXV - DISSOLUTION CLAUSE***

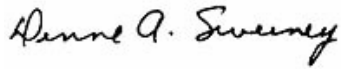
Section 1. In the event of dissolution, the residual assets of the Sons of Confederate Veterans will be turned over to a recipient which is then officially recognized as a tax exempt organization qualified to receive donations which are deductible by the donor under Section 501 (c)(3) of the Internal Revenue Code of 1954 (or the corresponding provision of any future United States Internal Revenue Law), as the General Executive Council shall determine. Such distribution shall only be made after said General Executive Council has paid or has made provision for the payment for all the liabilities of the association. Any such assets not so disposed of shall be disposed of by the Circuit Court of the Twenty-Second Judicial District of Maury County, Tennessee.

Section 2. It is the desire and intention of the Sons of Confederate Veterans to function at all times as an organization which is approved for exemption from Federal income taxes and which is qualified to receive donations which are deductible by the donor for income tax purposes under Section 501(c)(3) of the Internal Revenue Code of 1954 (or the corresponding provision of any future United States Internal Revenue Law).

## ***ARTICLE XXVI - AMENDMENTS***

Section 1. This Constitution may be amended at any General Convention by the vote of two-thirds of the total authorized representation thereat, provided that the proposed amendments shall have been sent to each Camp in good standing at least thirty days in advance of the Convention.

Approved:



Oct. 21, 2005

Denne A. Sweeney  
Commander-in-Chief



Oct. 21, 2005

James W. Dark  
Adjutant-in-Chief

Date