

## 2015 UPDATES: AMERICAN LEGION AUXILIARY NATIONAL CONSTITUTION, BYLAWS & STANDING RULES

Please note and incorporate the following two updates to the *American Legion Auxiliary National Constitution, Bylaws & Standing Rules*, as a result of actions at the 2015 National Convention. Please mark this booklet with the following 2015 adopted wording changes (**bolded**); the sections now read as follows:

- 1) **The proviso wording regarding membership eligibility, as printed in this booklet, is now in effect, having been amended into The American Legion National Constitution.**

The new Membership eligibility wording, found in the American Legion Auxiliary National Constitution Article III, Section 1, Eligibility, was adopted at the 2013 ALA National Convention as part of the ALA Constitution & Bylaws and Standing Rules Revision, under a proviso that delayed enactment until the Legion adopted corresponding changes to its governing documents. They have, and the updated wording, as printed on page 6 of the National Constitution, now reads as follows:

Membership in the American Legion Auxiliary shall be limited to the grandmothers, mothers, sisters, wives, and direct and adopted female descendants of members of The American Legion, and to the grandmothers, mothers, sisters, wives, and **direct and adopted female descendants** of all men and women who were in the Armed Forces of the United States during any of the following periods: April 6, 1917 to November 11, 1918; December 7, 1941 to December 31, 1946; June 25, 1950 to January 31, 1955; February 28, 1961 to May 7, 1975; August 24, 1982 to July 31, 1984; December 20, 1989 to January 31, 1990; August 2, 1990 to the date of cessation of hostilities as determined by the Government of the United States; all dates inclusive, or who being citizens of the United States at the time of their entry therein, served on active duty in the Armed Forces of any of the governments associated with the United States during any of said periods, and died in line of duty or after honorable discharge; and to those women who of their own right are eligible for membership in The American Legion.

- 2) **The national Cavalcade of Memories Committee is renamed the national History Committee and National Historian now ex-officio member**

At the 2015 American Legion Auxiliary National Convention, the following amendment was adopted:

*Amend National Standing Rules, VI, Committees, Sections 1 and 6: Rename National Cavalcade of Memories Committee to National History Committee and add the National Historian as ex-officio member.*

### VI. COMMITTEES (Page 43)

1. As provided in the National Bylaws, in addition to the core National Standing Committees – Veterans Affairs & Rehabilitation, Children & Youth, Americanism, National Security, Membership, Constitution & Bylaws, Finance and Audit – there shall be the following national committees: Auxiliary Emergency Fund, **History**, Community Service, Education, American Legion Auxiliary Girls Nation, Junior Activities, Leadership, Legislative, Liaison to The American Legion Child Welfare Foundation, Past Presidents Parley, Poppy, and Public Relations. The overall purpose of each standing committee is as specified in this section; the purpose of each national committee is as described in the American Legion Auxiliary National Plan of Action.

### VI. COMMITTEES (Page 44)

6. The composition of each National Standing Committee and each National Committee and the number of members and their terms shall be as described in this section, and any amendments thereto shall be by action of the National Convention delegates.

#### *National Committees – Member/Organizational Support*

**History Committee:** The History Committee shall be comprised of a chairman and three (3) members, all of whom shall serve a one-year term. **The National Historian shall serve as an ex-officio member of the committee.**

## **2016 UPDATES: AMERICAN LEGION AUXILIARY NATIONAL CONSTITUTION, BYLAWS & STANDING RULES**

Please note and incorporate the following two updates to the *American Legion Auxiliary National Constitution, Bylaws & Standing Rules*, as a result of actions at the 2016 National Convention. Please mark this booklet with the following 2016 wording changes (**bolded**); the sections now read as follows:

- 1) **Amend and rename Standing Rules Section III to specify attendance is expected for Department Training presented and underwritten by the National organization.**

At the 2016 American Legion Auxiliary National Convention, the following resolution was adopted:

*Amend National Standing Rules, Section III, Department Leadership National Conference, by changing the title and adding a second, third and fourth subsection as follows:*

### **III. NATIONAL CONFERENCES FOR DEPARTMENT LEADERS: (Page 38)**

1. A Department Leadership National Conference shall be held annually. Necessary expenses incurred for attendance may be paid from the national treasury when authorized by the national budget or authorized by the National President and confirmed by the National Executive Committee.
2. The National organization may present other national trainings, meetings, or conferences for specified department leaders from time to time such as the Department Secretary Organizational Effectiveness Training. Necessary expenses incurred for attendance may be paid from the national treasury when authorized by the national budget or authorized by the National president and confirmed by the National Executive Committee.
3. When a national training, meeting, or conference for specified department leaders is presented, and expenses for attendance are paid by the National organization, the specified department leaders for whom the training, meeting, or conference is prepared and presented are expected to attend, absent a valid excuse presented to and accepted by the National President or National Secretary.
4. Failure to attend as expected if registered shall result in the National Headquarters invoicing the department for said expense.

- 2) **Amend wording in Standing Rules Section X on Units to simplify and clarify the process by which a member can transfer her membership to another ALA unit**

At the 2016 American Legion Auxiliary National Convention, the following amendment was adopted:

*Amend National Standing Rules, Section X - Units, number 3, paragraph 5 by striking the existing wording and replacing it with wording that more clearly states the process by which an Auxiliary member can transfer her membership to a new unit, as follows:*

### **X. UNITS 3. (Page 58)**

A member who is not subject to suspension or membership revocation under due process is eligible to transfer her membership to another unit if she has paid her membership dues to her current unit for either the current year or immediate past membership year. A member transferring to a new unit must pay current year dues to either her current unit or to the unit into which she wishes to transfer.

Evidence of paid membership includes:

1. American Legion Auxiliary Membership Card
2. Verification of membership by ALA Department or National Headquarters membership records.
3. Other documentation verifying payment of current or immediate past year membership dues such as a cancelled check or receipt; or
4. When verifying documentation is not available, a sworn statement that the member's membership dues payment was tendered.