



CONSTITUTION AND BYLAWS  
OF THE  
AMERICAN LEGION AUXILIARY  
ROBERT BETHEL AMERICAN LEGION UNIT 220  
1455 SISTRUNK BLVD  
FT. LAUDERDALE, FL.33311

APRIL 25,2026

PREAMBLE

For God and Country, we associate ourselves together for the following purposes:  
To uphold and defend the Constitution of the United States of America; to maintain law and order; to foster and perpetuate a one hundred percent Americanism; to preserve the memories and incidents of our associations in all wars; to inculcate a sense of individual obligation to the community, state and nation; to combat the autocracy of both the classes and the masses; to make right the master of might; to promote peace and goodwill on earth; to safeguard and transmit to posterity the principles of justice, freedom and democracy; to participate in and contribute to the accomplishment of the aims and purposes of The American Legion; to consecrate and sanctify our association by our devotion to mutual helpfulness.

**ARTICLE I**

Name

Section 1. The name of this organization shall be the Robert Bethel American Legion Auxiliary Unit 220,Inc Department of Florida

Section 2. The National Headquarters of the American Legion Auxiliary shall be in the same city or metropolitan area as The American Legion National Headquarters.

## **ARTICLE II**

### **Nature**

Section 1. The Robert Bethel American Legion Auxiliary is a civilian patriotic organization that supports the mission of The American Legion.

Section 2. The Bethel American Legion Auxiliary Unit 220 shall be absolutely nonpolitical and shall not be used for the dissemination of partisan principles nor for any promotion of the candidacy of any person seeking public office or preferment.

### **OBJECT**

The object of the American Legion Auxiliary Robert Bethel Unit 220 inc. Department of Florida shall be stated in the Preamble of the Constitution.

## **ARTICLE III**

### **Membership**

Section 1. Eligibility for membership in the American Legion Auxiliary is determined by The American Legion. The eligibility requirements from The American Legion governing documents shall be provided as a footnote to this Constitution for information purposes and shall be updated as appropriate.<sup>1</sup>

Section 2. There shall be two (2) classes of membership, Senior and Junior.

(a)

(b)

(c)

Senior membership shall be composed of members aged eighteen (18) and older; provided, however, a member eligible under Section 1 of this article and who is under the age of eighteen (18) years and married shall be classified as a Senior member.

Junior membership shall be composed of members under the age of eighteen (18) years, whose activities shall be supervised by the

Senior membership. Upon reaching the age of eighteen years, Junior members shall automatically be admitted into Senior membership with full privileges.

Dues of both classes shall be paid annually or for life.

Section 3. A member whose dues are paid up-to-date and who is not subject to suspension or expulsion shall be considered in good standing and the member shall be entitled to full membership rights, privileges, and benefits in the Unit.

Section 4. Each unit of the ALA, except department headquarters units, has the authority to decide its membership and shall be responsible for verifying eligibility of prospective members, transfer or new.

Section 5. No person who is a member of an organization which has for its aim the overthrow of the United States Government or who subscribes to the principles of any group opposed to our form of government shall be eligible to become or remain a member of the American Legion Auxiliary.

Section 6. Membership can only be offered upon an affirmative vote of the unit members. Unless an alternate procedure is set forth in the unit bylaws.

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1 Membership in the American Legion Auxiliary shall be limited to the:

- (1) Grandmothers, mothers, sisters, spouses, and direct and adopted female descendants of members of The American Legion; and
- (2) grandmothers, mothers, sisters, spouses, and direct and adopted female descendants of all men and women who served in either of the following

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American Legion Auxiliary National Constitution, Bylaws, and Standing Rules Fall 2025 periods: April 6, 1917, to November 11, 1918, and any time after December 7, 1941, who being a citizen 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 either eligibility periods and died in the line of duty or after honorable discharge;

(3) grandmothers, mothers, sisters, spouses, and direct and adopted female descendants of all men and women who were in the Armed Forces of the United States during either of the following periods: April 6, 1917, to November 11, 1918; and any time after December 7, 1941, who served on active duty in the Armed Forces of the United States during either eligibility periods and died in the line of duty or after honorable discharge; and

(4) to those women who of their own right are eligible for membership in The American Legion.

#### **ARTICLE IV**

##### **National Officers**

Section 1. The National Organization shall have the following national officers: National President, National Vice President, five (5) National Division Vice Presidents, National Secretary, National Treasurer, National Chaplain, and National Historian.

Section 2. The National Convention shall elect the following term- limited national officers: National President, National Vice President, National Division Vice Presidents, National Chaplain, and National Historian. Each National Division Vice President shall serve without seniority. Such officers shall serve for one (1) term or until their successors are elected; a term shall start upon adjournment of the convention at which they are elected and end at the adjournment of the following National Convention.

Section 3. In the event of a vacancy in the office of the President, the National Vice President shall become President and shall assume the duties and authority

of the office. Vacancies occurring between National Conventions in these offices other than National President shall be filled by election by the National Executive Committee, and any member of the American Legion Auxiliary, in good standing, shall be eligible for election to such vacancy, provided, however, that no Past National President, or Past National Vice President shall be elected to fill any vacancy in these respective offices.

Section 4. The National Secretary and National Treasurer may serve an unlimited number of terms and shall be confirmed annually by the National Executive Committee.

American Legion Auxiliary National Constitution, Bylaws, and Standing Rules Fall 2025

## **ARTICLE V**

### **National Executive Committee**

Section 1. Between National Conventions, the National Executive Committee (NEC) shall serve as the governing body of the organization with fiduciary, policy, and strategic responsibility for the organization.

Section 2. The National Executive Committee shall be comprised of the National President, National Vice President, the five (5) National Division Vice Presidents, National Chaplain, National Historian, and one (1) National Executive Committee person or alternate from each Department, to be elected as such Department shall determine. Alternates shall serve only in the absence of the National Executive Committee person.

The National Secretary and National Treasurer shall be members of the National Executive Committee, and, when the positions are held by employees of National Headquarters, the National Secretary and National Treasurer shall serve with all rights except the right to vote.

All Past National Presidents in good standing in their Units shall be members for life of the National Executive Committee, with all rights except the right to vote.

Section 3. The National President and National Vice President shall serve as Chairman and Vice Chairman of the National Executive Committee respectively.

Section 4. The term of office of a National Executive Committee person shall commence immediately following the adjournment of the National Convention next ensuing and shall end at the adjournment of the next succeeding National Convention.

## **ARTICLE VI**

### **National Convention**

Section 1. The American Legion Auxiliary National Convention shall be held annually at the same time and place as the convention of The American Legion for the purpose of electing officers, receiving reports, and transacting such other business as shall properly come before it.

Section 2. Representation in the National Convention shall be by Departments. Each Department shall be entitled to delegates based upon the number of members whose dues are paid up-to-date as provided in the Standing Rules. Changes to the formula for delegate voting strength and the manner for casting votes may be

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American Legion Auxiliary National Constitution, Bylaws, and Standing Rules Fall 2025 determined only by a two-thirds vote of the National Convention delegates.

Section 3. The National President and National Vice President shall be delegates-at-large to the National Convention, with vote to be exercised with their Departments, and shall serve as National Convention Chairman and Vice Chairman respectively.

Section 4. The five (5) National Division Vice Presidents, the National Chaplain,

and the National Historian shall be delegates-at-large to the National Convention, with vote to be exercised with their Departments.

Section 5. Past National Presidents in good standing in their Units shall be life delegates-at-large to the National Convention, with vote to be exercised with their Departments.

Section 6. Members of the National Executive Committee shall be delegates-at-large to the National Convention, with vote to be exercised with their Departments.

Section 7. National Committee Chairmen (Americanism, American Legion Auxiliary Girls Nation, Auxiliary Emergency Fund, Children & Youth, Community Service, Constitution & Bylaws, Education, Finance, Junior Activities, Leadership, Legislative, Membership, National Security, Poppy, Public Relations, Risk & Compliance, and Veterans Affairs & Rehabilitation) shall be delegates-at-large to the National Convention, unless already a delegate-at-large. Vote to be exercised with their departments.

Section 8. Each delegate shall be entitled to one vote. The vote of any delegate absent and not represented by an alternate may be cast by the majority of the delegates present from the delegate's Department. The manner for casting votes shall be as provided in the National Convention Standing Rules.

Section 9. A quorum shall exist at a National Convention when sixty (60) percent of the Departments are represented by having paid their National Convention registration fees.

Section 10. Additional information regarding National Convention delegates shall be as provided in the Standing Rules.

## **ARTICLE VII**

### **Amendments**

Section 1. This Constitution may be amended at any National Convention by

a two-thirds vote of the National Convention delegates, provided the proposed

American Legion Auxiliary National Constitution, Bylaws, and Standing Rules Fall 2025 amendments shall have been submitted by the Monday after the third Friday in July to the National Secretary who shall then distribute them to the Departments and members of the National Executive Committee at least twenty (20) days prior to the convening of the next National Convention. Departments shall be responsible for distributing the proposed amendments to their delegates to the National Convention.

Section 2. Amendments proposed after distribution may be adopted by a two thirds vote of the National Convention delegates, provided they have been read at one session of the National Convention prior to taking the vote.