

CONSTITUTION
OF
THE EIGHTH DISTRICT OF THE AMERICAN LEGION
DEPARTMENT OF MISSOURI

ARTICLE I - NAME

Section 1 - The name of this organization shall be the Eighth District of The American Legion, Department of Missouri.

ARTICLE II – JURISDICTION

Section 1 - The Eighth District of the American Legion, Department of Missouri, shall consist of all American Legion Posts located in counties of Missouri, as discribed by the Department, which are: Boone, Camden, Cole, Cooper, Miller, Moniteau, Morgan and Osage

ARTICLE III - OBJECTIVES

Section 1 - The objectives of the Eighth District of the American Legion, Department of Missouri, shall be those stated in the Department and National Constitutions.

Section 2 - This organization shall be non-political and shall not be used for the dissemination of partisan principles, nor for the promotion of the candidacy of any person seeking public office or preferment.

ARTICLE IV - MEMBERSHIP

Section 1 - Membership in the Eight District of the American Legion, Department of Missouri, shall include all members, in good standing, of all Posts located in the Eighth District.

Section 2 - There shall be no other form of membership.

ARTICLE V - OFFICERS

Section 1 - Officers of the Eighth District shall consist of the following, who assume their duties at the end of the ensuing Department Convention and serve two years, or until their successors are elected and installed.

ARTICLE V-CONTINUED

Commander
Senior Vice-Commander
County Vice-Commander-As assigned by the District
Commander
Adjutant
Finance Officer
Judge Advocate - preferably an attorney
Historian
Chaplain - preferably, but not necessarily, a clergyman
Sergeant-at-Arms
Assistant Sergeant-at-Arms - two to be elected

Section 2 - The Adjutant shall be appointed by and serve at the pleasure of the District Commander.

Section 3 - All other officers shall be elected in even-numbered years, with the exception of oratorical chairman and county oratorical officers, who shall be appointed in odd numbered years, each serving two years or until their successors are elected and installed .

Section 4 - No District Commander shall succeed himself. Other officers may be re-elected or re-appointed.

Section 5 - Other District offices may be created by amendment to this Constitution in the manner prescribed herein.

Section 6 - Relocation outside of the District (county, in the case of County Vice-Commanders) of officers or members of Committees, shall automatically vacate the District office involved.

Section 7 - Officer vacancies shall be filled by the District Executive Committee.

ARTICLE VI - MEETINGS

Section 1 - District meetings shall occur no less frequently than quarterly, normally at approximately uniform intervals.

Section 2 - The first quarterly meeting shall be held within ninety days following the Department Convention. The fourth quarterly meeting shall be known as the ANNUAL BUSINESS MEETING, at which the District officers are to be elected, also other business of an annual nature (See By-Laws)

ARTICLE VI - CONTINUED

Section 3 - Special meetings will be held when considered necessary by the District Commander, or upon written request of no less than ten members in good standing.

Section 4 - The dates, times and places of meetings shall be determined by the District Commander, preferably by invitation from locales in the District. Posts are to be informed, normally no less than thirty days and never less than ten days in advance. Meeting notices shall mention any special actions contemplated.

Section 5 - American Legion Opening and Closing ceremony shall be observed in all District meetings.

ARTICLE VII - SUPERCEDURE

Any provision of this Constitution, and its by-laws, and/or actions of the Eighth District shall be null and void to the extent found in violation of American Legion National and Department policies or procedures, or in violation of governmental laws, ordinances, and/or regulations.

ARTICLE VIII - AMENDMENTS

Section 1 - This constitution and its by-laws may be amended at any District Annual Meeting, by two thirds affirmative vote of the authorized delegates present.

Section 2 - Proposed amendments shall be submitted in writing, to each Post in the District at least thirty days prior to the date of the District Annual Meeting.

Section 3 - Amendments shall take effect and be in force immediately upon adoption, unless otherwise provided herein.

EIGHTH DISTRICT OF THE AMERICAN LEGION
DEPARTMENT OF MISSOURI
BY-LAWS

ARTICLE I-OFFICERS DUTIES

Section 1 - The duties of District officers shall be those normally associated with their titles and as prescribed in American Legion National and Department Constitutions and By-Laws and other publications thereof.

Section 2 - The District Commander may assign specific additional responsibilities to his officers.

Section 3 - Officers shall be provided Committees, when needed, for accomplishment of their responsibilities.

ARTICLE II - EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE

Section 1 - Between Annual Business Meetings, the administration of the District shall be vested in a District Executive Committee composed of the District Commander and other District officers, the immediate past District Commander, and the Commander of each Post, his designated Vice-Commander, or other representative.

Section 2 - The District Executive Committee of the Eighth District shall meet at such time and place as determined by the District Commander, or by written request of ten members of the Committee.

ARTICLE III -ADVISORY COMMITTEE

Section 1 - The resident past Commanders of the Eighth District shall comprise an Advisory Committee to make recommendations to the District, when requested by the District Commander or when initiated within the Committee.

Section 2 - The Chairman shall be designated annually by the District Commander.

ARTICLE IV -- OTHER COMMITTEES

Section 1 - Standing Committees of the District, normally consisting of at least three members serving at the pleasure of the District Commander, shall be:

PAGE 2
ARTICLE IV - CONTINUED

Americanism
Boy Scout
Boy's State
Cadet Patrol Academy
Children and Youth
County Government
Junior Legion Baseball Commission - one member to be appointed each year,
for a term of three years.
Membership
National Security
Oratorical Contest
Publicity
Veterans Affairs and Rehabilitation
School Awards
State Youth and Government
Legislative

Section 2 - Additional Committees shall be appointed as needed or advisable.

Section 3 - Responsibilities of Committees shall be customarily associated with their titles and as established by American Legion policies.

Section 4 - Members may serve on more than one Committee. District officers may be Chairmen or members of Committees. The District Commander and Adjutant shall be ex-officio members of all Committees.

ARTICLE V - FINANCES

Section 1 - Each Post in the Eighth District shall pay to the District, prior to each Annual Business Meeting, a per capita tax of thirty five cents (.35) for each member in good standing, and the District Commander shall receive sixty percent (60%) of the first twenty-five cents (.25) as compensation for his expenses incurred as Commander.

Section 2 - No member of a Post shall be permitted to vote or be elected or appointed to any office in the District unless the per capita tax of his Post has been paid.

Section 3 - Posts whose per capita taxes are in arrears are to be reported to the Department Adjutant immediately following the Annual Business Meeting for the information and appropriate action by the Department.

ARTICLE VI - ANNUAL BUSINESS MEETING

Section 1 - Each Post shall be entitled to one delegate or one alternate and, in addition thereto, one delegate and one alternate for each fifty members or major portion thereof, whose current National and Department dues have been received by Department Headquarters.

Section 2- In addition to the regularly elected delegates from Posts, all past Commanders Of the District, in good standing in their respective Posts, shall be delegates at large and shall be entitled to one vote each when present.

Section 3 - In the District Annual Business meeting, each delegate shall be entitled to one vote. The vote of any absent delegate not represented by an alternate, shall be cast by the other delegates present from his Post.

Section 4 - Voting by proxy shall not be permitted.

Section 5 - The election of Officers in even-numbered years shall be the final action under "New Business" . Nominations from the floor are permitted. Secret written ballots are to be used when there is more than one candidate for any one office.

ARTICLE VII - QUORUM

A quorum at a District Meeting shall consist of those Posts represented by members present at the meeting .

ARTICLE VIII - SUSPEND BY-LAWS

These By-Laws may be set aside by a two-thirds majority in each instance of those entitled to vote.

ARTICLE IX - EMERGENCY ACTIONS

Actions of an emergency nature which must, of necessity, be accomplished prior to District approval or consent, shall be reported at the next regular or special District meeting.

ARTICLE X - RULES OF ORDER

Roberts' Rules of Order of Business shall apply, except as other wise prescribed in the District's Constitution and By-Laws.