

**Veterans of Foreign Wars of the United States**  
**Department of Minnesota District Six**  
**BY-LAWS**

ARTICLE I

Name and Jurisdiction

Section 1: By virtue of Charter granted, this subdivision of the Veterans of Foreign Wars of the United States, Department of Minnesota, shall be known as The Fighting Sixth District, Department of Minnesota, Veterans of Foreign Wars of the United States, hereinafter referred to as "District".

Section 2: The jurisdiction of this District shall conform with the boundaries established by the Department of Minnesota Convention.

ARTICLE II

Objects

The objects of this District shall be as set forth in the National Constitution and Congressional Charter of the Veterans of Foreign Wars of the United States.

ARTICLE III

Authority

Section 1: The power of this District shall be vested in the Department Convention and the National Convention of the Veterans of Foreign Wars of the United States and shall be at all times governed by the Constitution and By-laws of the National Convention and the Department, and mandates of the National Council of Administration, the Commander-in-Chief, the Department Council of Administration, and the Department Convention.

Section 2: Subject to the provisions of the National Constitution and By-laws and the mandates of the Department Convention, the government of this District shall be vested in the District Convention, the District meetings, and lawful orders of the District Commander.

ARTICLE IV

District Conventions

Section 1: The District shall hold one (1) convention each year. Bids for the convention must be in the hands of the Time and Place committee, which shall be appointed by the District Commander, and the Time and Place committee shall bring a recommendation to the floor for a vote at the same convention.

Section 2: Composition of the District Convention shall consist of the following, all of whom must be members in good standing in the District:

- A. Commander-in Chief and Past Commanders-in-Chief
- B. The National Council of Administration member
- C. The Department Commander and Past Department Commanders
- D. District Commander and Past District Commanders
- E. All elected District Officers and the District Adjutant
- F. All Post Commanders of the District. In the absence of the Post Commander, the Senior Vice Commander, or in his absence, the Junior Vice Commander, may function as a member of the District Convention

G. Elected Delegates of the Posts in the District. Delegates must be properly registered prior to the convening of the District Convention.

Section 3: Delegates and Alternates to the District Convention shall be elected by each Post at a regular Post meeting held not less than thirty (30) days prior to a District Convention at which District Officers are to be elected. Each Post will allowed one (1) Delegate and one (1) Alternate for each fifteen (15) members, or fraction thereof, in good standing in the Post at the time of District elections.

All Posts will submit to the District Quartermaster, for forwarding to the Credentials Committee Chairman, a list of the delegates and alternates to which the Post is entitled. Forms for this purpose shall be sent to each Post at least sixty (60) days prior to the convention.

Section 4: A fee of fifty (50) cents shall be charged for each delegate to which a Post is entitled. This fee shall be submitted for each delegate whether the delegate attends the convention or not. There shall be no registration charge for any member attending the convention other than the aforementioned delegate fee. The District shall retain monies derived from the delegate fees until all expenses relative to the collection of the delegate fees have been paid. The balance left after these expenses shall be returned to the host Post to use as the Post sees fit.

Section 5: Each member of the District Convention, except Delegates elected by the Posts, present at the convention shall be entitled to one (1) vote. The Delegate or Delegates of a Post present at the convention shall be entitled to vote the full delegate strength to which the Post is entitled. The Post Commander, or in his absence the Post Senior Vice Commander, as a member of the convention, may at his own option, choose to vote as a delegate rather than a Post Commander. Should there be a division among the Delegates representing the Post, each Delegate present shall cast his pro rata share of the total delegate voting strength of the Post.

Section 6: Post Delegates and Commanders shall not be allowed to vote in an election of District Officers unless the following requirements are met:

- A. National Delegate Fee paid for the prior year
- B. Current donation to the Department Hospital Recreation and Scholarship Fund has been made
- C. A completed Quarterly Audit for December 31 has been filed
- D. Paid up District per capita assessment
- E. Quartermaster's bond paid
- F. Previous year's poppies paid for
- G. Officers elected for the coming year
- H. Club assessment paid (if applicable).

Section 7: The Post hosting a District Convention shall enter into a contract with the District consisting of the following details:

- A. A list of available housing
- B. A list of meeting facilities available for District and Auxiliary and the Memorial Service
- C. A completed schedule by the Winter Meeting ready for publication in the District newsletter.
- D. A list of activities that the host post will conduct.

## ARTICLE V Officers

Section 1: The elected District Officers shall be those as provided in Article IV, Section 414 of the National By-laws and Article V, Section 6, Paragraph C-1 of the Department of Minnesota By-laws plus a District Club Committeeman and a District Legislative Officer.

Section 2: The appointed District Officers shall be those officers appointed by the District Commander as follows: Adjutant, Chief-of-Staff, Chief Inspector, Service Officer, Historian, Liaison Officer, Publicity Officer, Youth Director, Poppy Day Chairman, Safety Chairman, National Home Chairman, Voice of Democracy Chairman, Employment Officer, Officer of the Day, National Security Officer, Community Service Chairman, Senior Activities Chairman, POW/MIA Chairman, Blood Chairman, VFW-PAC Chairman, two (2) color bearers, two (2) color guards, Bugler, and Guard, all of whom can be removed from office at the District Commander's pleasure.

Section 3: Vacancies in offices may be declared and filled in accordance with the provisions of the National By-laws Article IV, Section 418.

## ARTICLE VI District Per Capita Tax

District Per Capita Tax shall not exceed twenty-five (25) cents per member.

## ARTICLE VII Standing Committees

Section 1: The Finance and Budget Committee shall consist of the Officers of the District. It shall be the duty of the committee to prepare a budget for the coming year and a financial statement for the year completed and to submit each to the members of the District for approval at the July Organizational meeting.

Section 2: The Credential Committee shall consist of three (3) members of the District appointed by the District Commander. It shall be the duty of the committee to assume full charge of the registration of the delegates attending the District Convention and to examine and report to the District Convention upon the credentials of the members present and who is entitled to vote at the District Convention.

Section 3: There shall be a permanent By-laws Committee consisting of the last two (2) Past District Commanders available and the District Judge Advocate currently in office. The duties of the committee shall be to study, prepare, and recommend such amendments as may be required to maintain compliance with the National and Department By-laws and/or for the government of the District. The senior of the Past District Commanders on the committee shall be the chairman of the committee and his name and address shall appear on the District roster.

Section 4: The Resolutions Committee shall consist of one (1) Past District Commander, one (1) District Officer currently in office, and two (2) Past Post Commanders. The District Commander shall appoint the members of the committee. The duties of the committee shall be to study resolutions that have been presented to the District Convention and to bring the resolutions to the Convention floor with the committee's recommendation.

## ARTICLE VIII District Meetings

Section 1: The stated District Meetings shall be the July Organizational Meeting, the Early Fall Meeting, the Late Fall Meeting, and the Winter Meeting.

Section 2: Times of the stated District meetings shall be established by the District Commander and submitted to the Department Commander for his approval prior to the July Organizational Meeting.

Section 3: It shall be the duty of the District Commander to set the time and place of the July Organizational Meeting.

Section 4: Bids for all the stated District Meetings, except the District Convention, shall be submitted, on the proper forms and signed by the Post Commander and the Post Adjutant, at the July Organizational Meeting to the Time and Place Committee and shall be brought to the floor for a vote by the members.

Section 5: The Early Fall Meeting shall be held after the Department Fall Conference in order the District Officers can make the best use of the schools of instructions that are conducted at the Department Fall Conference.

Section 6: All members of the District in good standing shall have a vote at all District Meetings. It shall not be necessary to elect Delegates to a District Meeting. The host Post of a District Meeting may charge a registration fee for all members attending the meeting but this fee shall not exceed fifty (50) cents per member. The host Post shall retain the proceeds of this registration for its use.

Section 7: The District Commander may call a special meeting in accordance with Article IV, Section 406 of the National Manual of Procedure.

#### ARTICLE IX Official Publication

Section 1: The official publication of the District shall be the *Fighting Sixth District Newsletter*.

Section 2: The District Publicity Officer shall be the Managing Editor of the publication.

#### ARTICLE X Club Activities

Clubs will be operated in accordance with the laws of the State of Minnesota, the laws of the municipality in which the club is located, and the rules of the Veterans of Foreign Wars.

#### ARTICLE XI Youth Activities

Bids for any Youth Activity that falls before October 1 must be in the hands of the District Adjutant prior to the convening of the Winter Meeting and will be acted on at the Winter Meeting. Bids for any Youth Activity that falls after October 1 must be in the hands of the District Adjutant prior to the convening of the July Organizational Meeting and will be acted on at the July Organizational meeting.

#### ARTICLE XII Senior Activities

Bids for any Senior Activity that falls before October 1 must be in the hands of the District Adjutant prior to the convening of the July Organizational Meeting and will be acted on at the July Organizational Meeting. Bids for any Senior Activity that falls after October 1 must be in the hands of the District Adjutant prior to the convening of the Early Fall Meeting and will be acted on at the Early Fall meeting.

ARTICLE XIII  
District Endorsements

The District shall not endorse candidates for Department or National office prior to the Late Fall Meeting.

ARTICLE XIV  
Solicitation of Funds

Section 1: Except as noted below, only the host post of any meeting, function, or convention of the District may solicit funds in any manner from the members attending such meeting, function, convention.

Section 2: Solicitation of funds to be used by the District may be conducted at any time.

Section 3: Solicitation of funds by any Post other than the host Post at any meeting, function, or convention may be conducted with the permission of the host Post Commander and the District Commander.

ARTICLE XV  
Commander's Prerogatives

The District Commander shall have the following prerogatives:

- A. To set Time of all stated District Meetings and District Convention
- B. To set Time and Place of the July Organizational Meeting
- C. To appoint all committee chairmen except as provided in these By-laws
- D. To debate issues in the main body, providing he surrenders the chair
- E. To preside during nominations and elections, even though he may be a candidate.
- F. To call upon a Vice-Commander to preside at any time.

ARTICLE XVI  
Resolutions

Section 1: All resolutions shall be submitted in proper form, starting with "Whereas" (the reason the resolution is being submitted) and ending with "Therefore, Be it resolved" (the resolution).

Section 2: A resolution should first be brought to the Post floor for adoption by the Post. If adopted, it should be signed by the Post Commander and the Post Adjutant and brought to the District Resolutions Committee on or before the District Convention.

ARTICLE XVII  
Revisions and Amendments

Section 1: These By-laws may be amended or revised by a two-thirds (2/3) vote of the delegates present at the District Convention provided a notice of amending or revising the By-laws has been published in the official publication of the District at least ten (10) days prior to the District Convention at which the vote shall be taken, except that by the very nature of the revision or amendment the above rules cannot be followed, the By-laws Committee shall decide whether the amendment or revision can be brought to the floor for a vote.

Section 2: All amendments or revisions to the By-laws shall take effect the first day of July following the District Convention at which the amendment or revision was approved.