

# Nebraska Society of the Sons of the American Revolution

# **CONSTITUTION AND BYLAWS**

Adopted by the Society as of September 25, 2022

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# **CONSTITUTION**

#### Article I. – Name

<u>Section 1. Name.</u> The name of this Society shall be the Nebraska Society of the Sons of the American Revolution (hereinafter referred to as the "Society" or "State" or "NESSAR").

# **Article II. – Objects**

<u>Section 1. Objects.</u> The objects of the Society are declared to be patriotic, historical, and educational, and shall include those intended or designed to perpetuate the memory of those patriots who, by their services or sacrifices during the war of the American Revolution, achieved the independence of the American people; to unite and promote fellowship among their descendants; to inspire them and the community-at-large with a more profound reverence for the principles of the government founded by our forefathers; to encourage historical research in relation to the American Revolution; to acquire and preserve the records of the individual services of patriots of the war, as well as documents, relics, and landmarks; to mark the scenes of the Revolution by appropriate memorials; to celebrate the anniversaries of the prominent events of the war and of the Revolutionary period; to foster true patriotism; to maintain and extend the institutions of American freedom and to carry out the purposes expressed in the preamble of the Constitution of our country and the injunctions of Washington in his farewell address to the American people.

#### Article III. – Membership

<u>Section 1. Eligibility.</u> Any male shall be eligible for membership in the Society, who, being a citizen of good repute in the community, is the lineal descendant of an ancestor who at the time of his last known service demonstrated loyalty to, and rendered active service in the cause of American Independence either as an officer, soldier, seaman, marine, militiaman or minuteman, in the armed forces of the Continental Congress or any one of the several Colonies or States, as a signer of the Declaration of Independence, as a member of a Committee of Safety or Correspondence, as a member of any Continental, Provincial, or Colonial Congress or Legislature, as a foreign national of, but not limited to, France, Germany, Poland, Spain, Sweden or Switzerland who rendered service in the cause of American Independence, or as a recognized patriot who performed actual service by overt acts of resistance to the authority of Great Britain, provided, however, that no person advocating the overthrow of the Government of the United States by use of force or violence shall be eligible for membership in the Society. Every member of this Society shall be subject to all the rules and regulations of the National Society.

#### <u>Section 2. Membership Classification.</u> There shall be the following classes of members:

A. A Regular Member shall be any member, eighteen (18) years and over, excepting those members described in Subsections B through E of this Section, who meets all the requirements for membership as defined in this Constitution and in the Bylaws and Membership Policies of the National Society.

B. A Junior Member shall be a male under the age of eighteen (18) years who has met the membership requirements of the National Society. A Junior Member cannot vote or receive The SAR Magazine until he attains the age of eighteen (18) years.

#### C. A Life Member shall be:

- (i) a National Life Member shall be a male who has completed an application for National Life Membership and paid the designated Life Membership fee as defined and published by the National Society. A National Life Member shall be exempt from all annual dues payable to the National Society. A National Life Member who has not reached the age of eighteen (18) shall have the same rights and limitations as a Junior Member as defined in subsection (2).
- (ii) a State Life Member shall be a male who as completed an application for State Life Members and paid the designated Life Membership fee as defined and published by this Society. A State Life Member shall be exempt from all annual dues payable to this Society. A State Life Member who has not reached the age of eighteen (18) shall have the same rights and limitations as a Junior Member as defined in subsection (2).
- D. An Emeritus Member shall be any male member who has paid a total of fifty (50) cumulative years of annual dues, excepting any dues paid as a Junior Member prior to age eighteen (18). An Emeritus Member shall be exempt from all annual dues payable to the National Society and this Society.
- E. A Memorial Member shall be a deceased male of the same family as a current member as defined in subsections A through D, whose application and payment have been submitted in accordance with the Bylaws of the National Society.

#### Article IV. - Chapters

<u>Section 1. Chapter Organization.</u> The membership of this Society shall be organized into Chapters and Members-At-Large. A member of this Society who elects not to join a Chapter shall be a Member-At-Large. Every member of a Chapter, and every Member-At-Large, shall become at the same time a member of this Society and of the National Society and shall be subject to all the rules and regulations thereof.

<u>Section 2. Chapter Establishment.</u> A local Chapter may be established in any community by ten (10) or more persons eligible for membership, with power to elect its own officers, to regulate its own business, and to engage in any activity, consistent with this Constitution and Bylaws.

#### Article V. – Officers

# Section 1. Officers.

A. The elected Officers of this Society shall be a President, a First Vice-President, a Second Vice-President, a Secretary, a Treasurer, and a Registrar, who shall be elected by ballot by a favorable majority of the members present and casting ballots at the Fall Meeting of the Society held in an odd-numbered year, who shall be installed in office at the Spring Meeting

held in an even-numbered year, and who shall hold office for two (2) years or until their successors are elected and qualified. All nominations of elected Officers, including those made by the Nominating Committee, shall be made from the floor at a regular Fall Meeting of the Society in an odd-numbered year.

- B. The appointed Officers of this Society shall be the Chaplain and Historian, who shall be appointed by the President with such appointment ratified by a favorable majority vote of the Board of Managers.
- C. Each Officer shall have such powers and duties as are provided in the Bylaws. All Officers shall serve without compensation in such capacities.
- D. The Executive Committee of the Society shall be composed of the President, First Vice-President, Second Vice-President, Secretary, and Treasurer
- E. A National Trustee and Alternate National Trustee shall be selected as nominees for election at the Annual National Congress, in accordance with the National Society Bylaws, by a favorable majority vote of the members at the Spring Meeting of the Society each year. The Board of Managers shall make the nominations for National Trustee and Alternate National Trustee, and nominations may also be made from the floor.
- F. Two (2) past State Presidents shall be elected to the Board of Managers by ballot by a favorable majority of the members present and casting ballots at the Fall Meeting of the Society held in an odd-numbered year, who shall be installed in office at the Spring Meeting held in an even-numbered year, and who shall hold office for two (2) years or until their successors are elected and qualified
- G. One (1) Member-At-Large shall be elected to the Board of Managers by ballot by a favorable majority of the Members-At-Large present and casting ballots at the Fall Meeting of the Society held in an odd-numbered year, who shall be installed in office at the Spring Meeting held in an even-numbered year, and who shall hold office for two (2) years or until their successors are elected and qualified.

<u>Section 2. Qualifications</u>. Officers of this Society will be subject to certain qualifications to hold office:

- A. The President shall have been President of a State Chapter who has completed his two-year (2) term at the Chapter level. He shall not serve as a Chapter President during his term of office as State President.
- B. The First Vice-President shall be the current Chapter President of a chapter other than the chapter of the current State President.
- C. The Second Vice-President shall be the current Chapter President of the chapter of the current State President.
- D. The Secretary, Treasurer, and Registrar shall have been members of the Society for at least one (1) year prior to taking office.
- E. The nominees for National Trustee and Alternate National Trustee shall have been members of the Society for at least one (1) year prior to their nomination and shall be willing to affirm their intention to attend the Annual National Congress to which they were nominated.

- F. Each of the two (2) past State Presidents serving on the Board of Managers shall be from different chapters of the Society
- G. No officer of the Society shall hold more than one (1) office of the Society at the same time.

#### Section 3. Board of Managers.

- A. The affairs of the Society shall be conducted by a Board of Managers. The Board of Managers shall be composed of: the elected and appointed Officers of the Society; the immediate past State President; two (2) past State Presidents elected as described in the Bylaws; one (1) representative from each Chapter who shall be the highest ranking Chapter Officer not already serving in a capacity described in this section; and, one (1) Member-At-Large elected as described in the Bylaws.
- B. The Board of Managers shall be the superintending board of the Society and shall have the power and authority to manage the affairs of the Society as described in the Bylaws.

# Section 4. Nominating Committee.

A. Nominations for the elected Officers of the Society, for the past State Presidents serving on the Board of Managers, and for the Member-at-Large serving on the Board of Managers shall be made by the Nominating Committee, which shall be appointed by the State President at the Spring Meeting in odd-numbered years. The Nominating Committee shall have at least four (4) members and shall equally represent each Chapter. The Nominating Committee will perform its duties and responsibilities as described in the Bylaws.

#### **Article VI. – Committees**

<u>Section 1. Standing Committees.</u> The Society shall have the following Standing Committees, whose membership shall be appointed by the President in accordance with the Bylaws: Constitution and Bylaws, Nominating, Membership, Budget and Finance, Audit, Publicity, First Responders, Eagle Scout, Reserve Officer Training/Junior Reserve Officer Training Recognition, Flag, Color Guard, Medals and Awards, and History.

<u>Section 2. Ad Hoc Committees</u>. The President shall have the power and authority to create Ad Hoc Committees and appoint their members to accomplish the objects of the Society for special and temporary purposes, circumstances, or events.

#### **Article VII. – Meetings**

<u>Section 1. Regular Meetings.</u> The Society shall hold a Spring Meeting, to be held on a Sunday in April, and a Fall Meeting, to be held on a Sunday in September, each year for the transaction of business, at such time and place in Nebraska as may be determined by the Society at its meeting or by the Executive Committee to promote good attendance and reasonable travel distances for attending members. The meetings shall be chaired by the State President, or First Vice-President in his absence. An announcement of the meeting place, time and agenda will be published at least three (3) weeks prior to meeting. Meetings will be conducted according to the most current edition of *Robert's Rules of Order, Newly Revised*.

<u>Section 2. Special Meetings.</u> Special meetings may be called by the State President, or by a majority of the Board of Managers, for the purpose of celebrating historical events of the American Revolution, for other patriotic purposes, and for the transaction of business that cannot be postponed until the next Spring Meeting or Fall Meeting.

<u>Section 3. Quorum.</u> No regular or special meeting of the Society may be termed official and no business shall be conducted unless there be present a quorum of at least consist of seven (7) members in good standing, at least three (3) of which shall be members of the Board of Managers. No voting or balloting by proxy shall be allowed in elections or other matters of business coming before the Society.

<u>Section 4. Meeting Format.</u> Meetings of the Society and its Chapters shall be held in-person for the purpose of promoting broad participation in the conduct of business and fraternity among the membership. At the discretion of their respective chairs, the Board of Managers, Executive Committee, and any Standing or Ad Hoc Committee may conduct their work in-person, via email, by telephone or video conference, or through any other means that is conducive to the active participation of its members and the effective and efficient completion of its work.

<u>Section 5. Emergency Operations.</u> In the event a local, state, or national authority issues a directive that prevents the Society or a Chapter from meeting in-person, the Society or Chapter may, at the discretion of the State President or upon a majority vote of the Board of Managers, hold meetings via video conference for the duration of the directive. Meetings held in this manner and circumstance shall not conduct any business that requires a vote of the membership, including the election of officers. During the emergency period, the Board of Managers shall have the authority to accomplish the business of the Society. Actions taken by the Board of Managers shall be documented by the State Secretary, and shall be subject to the approval of the membership at the next in-person meeting. If the Society is not able to hold its elections as described in Article V, Section 1.A, the Board of Managers shall have the authority to extend the terms of the elected Officers with a two-thirds (2/3) vote of the Board of Managers until such time as the Society can hold a meeting and conduct its elections.

#### Article VIII. - Amendments

<u>Section 1. Amendments.</u> This Constitution and any Bylaws may be amended or repealed by a formal action of this Society's members by directing the State President to appoint a Committee to review and revise them through a resolution passed by a favorable majority of members at any State meeting a quorum is present. The Committee once appointed shall accept and review all written proposals from members in good standing to revise or amend the State Constitution and Bylaws and propose to the membership said amendments for approval by a favorable majority of the members present at any State meeting of the Society where a quorum is present. Such amendments or proposed changes shall be provided in writing by e-mail or US mail to each member of the Society in advance at least thirty (30) days before such action is to be taken.

# **BYLAWS**

# **Article I. – Membership**

<u>Section 1. Methods.</u> Active membership in the Nebraska Society of the Sons of the American Revolution may be secured by any of four (4) methods:

- A. By original application of the forms, and subject to the conditions set forth thereon, as supplied by the National Society,
- B. By reinstatement, after resigning from, or having been demitted by this Society,
- C. By transfer from another State Society or from the Children of the American Revolution, in the form and subject to the conditions set forth, by the National Society, or
- D. By dual membership, namely, by a member of another State Society, in good standing, who desires to hold membership in two (2) or more State Societies at the same time.

<u>Section 2. Original Applications.</u> An applicant for membership who has not previously been affiliated with any State Society or the National Society shall file his application using an accepted form or method prescribed by the National Society and furnished by the State Society. Each application shall bear the endorsement of at least two (2) current members and shall be approved by the Registrars of the Chapter and State the applicant proposes to join.

<u>Section 3. Reinstatement.</u> A former member of this Society, desiring reinstatement, shall so request in writing to the State Secretary and submit with such request full payment of annual Chapter, State, and National dues and a \$10 reinstatement fee. Reinstatement will be granted at the discretion of the Executive Committee by a favorable majority vote, and shall comply with reinstatement requirements of the National Society Bylaws. Reinstated members will be reported to the National Society Registrar General by the State Secretary with seven (7) days of their reinstatement.

<u>Section 4. Transfer.</u> A member of another state society, in good standing, who desires to surrender such membership and become a member of this Society, may be demitted from his current state society and admitted to this Society upon the proper execution of a form provided by the National Society, and the appropriate remittance of Chapter and State dues. In like manner, a member of the Children of the American Revolution, having attained the age of eighteen (18), may be transferred to membership in this Society by furnishing a copy of his original application and evidence that he is in good standing.

<u>Section 5. Dual Membership.</u> A member of another state society, in good standing who desires to become a member of this Society, while still retaining his current society membership, may be admitted to this Society by delivering to the State Secretary a properly executed application for dual membership on a form provided by the National Society and the appropriate remittance of Chapter and State dues.

<u>Section 6. Acceptance.</u> Upon receipt of any application in any of the forms above set forth, accompanied by the payment of the admission charges and dues, the State Secretary shall present the applicant, in proper form, to the Executive Committee. The Secretary will inform the Executive Committee of the applicant's election to affiliate with a Chapter, or his election and reason to join the Society as a Member-At-Large. If a favorable majority of the Executive Committee approves the application, the Secretary shall so certify, filing one copy of the application with the Registrar of this Society and submitting one copy to the Registrar General of the National Society.

A new applicant shall not be deemed elected to membership until the Registrar General of the National Society shall have notified the State Secretary of his approval of the application, and of the National number assigned to the new member. Upon such notification, the applicant becomes a member of both the State and National Societies, his membership dating from the approval of this application by the State Executive Committee. Each newly admitted member of the Society shall be issued, by the National Society, a certificate of membership with the official seal, the signatures of the National and State Officers, his own name and the name of his Revolutionary ancestor printed thereon. If at any time any of the essential statements given in a member's application papers are found to be untrue, then shall the said member's election be declared null and void. Any applicant, failing of admission, shall be so notified by the Secretary, and the amount of his admission charge less a small administrative cost shall be refunded.

<u>Section 7. Admission Fees.</u> The payment of regular admission fees shall accompany all new applications. The fee shall consist of a National application fee, a State application fee, National dues, and State and Chapter dues. All National, State and Chapter fees will be for the year in which the applicant is accepted by the National Society.

# Article II. - Dues

<u>Section 1. Annual Dues.</u> The annual dues of this Society shall be published yearly in the minutes of the Spring Meeting and shall include annual State and Chapter dues and the amount of dues set by the National Society payable by the State Society to the National Society. National Society annual dues shall be remitted to the Treasurer General not later than January 20<sup>th</sup> of the year for which dues are being paid.

<u>Section 2. Dues Notice.</u> No later than October 1<sup>st</sup> of each year, the State Secretary shall forward to each member of the NESSAR a dues notice for Chapter, State Society and National Society (except SAR Life Members will not be assessed National dues) for the following year.

<u>Section 3. Dues Payment.</u> Dues shall be payable on October 1<sup>st</sup> of each year and shall become delinquent if not paid by December 31<sup>st</sup> of each year. Dues for NESSAR members not affiliated with a chapter will be collected by the State Treasurer on the same schedule as chapter dues collections. On or before December 31<sup>st</sup> of each year, each Chapter Secretary or Treasurer shall file with the State Secretary the Annual Chapter Report, along with a current chapter membership roster and a check, payable to "NESSAR" for the State and National Dues as outlined in Article II, Section 1 above.

<u>Section 4. Failure to Pay Dues.</u> Any member failing to pay his annual dues by December 31<sup>st</sup> shall forfeit his membership in this Society and shall be subject to provisions of Bylaw Article V – Forfeiture of Membership. The State Secretary shall mail a notice to each member subject to such forfeiture by January 15<sup>th</sup>. A member demitted for non-payment of dues may be reinstated by the process described in <u>Bylaw Article I, Section 3</u>.

# Article III. – Life Membership

<u>Section 1.</u> The dues for a State Life Membership shall be published yearly in the minutes of the Spring Meeting. A member in good standing who pays in full the dues for a State Life Membership shall be a State Life Member, and shall be exempt from payment of annual State dues thereafter.

#### Article IV. - Change in State Residence

<u>Section 1.</u> Whenever a member in good standing changes his residence to the jurisdiction of another state society, he shall be entitled, if he so elects, to a certificate of honorable demission, in order that he may be transferred to said society; provided, however, that no such certificate shall be given unless all Chapter and State dues and fees are paid. Said membership in this Society shall not cease until membership in the other society be established.

# **Article V. – Forfeiture of Membership**

<u>Section 1. Methods of Forfeiture.</u> Membership in this Society may be forfeited, withdrawn, or rescinded, as follows:

- A. Any member failing to pay his annual dues by December 31st each year shall forfeit his membership in this Society,
- B. Any member may withdraw their membership in this Society by submitting their declaration in writing to the State Secretary, provided that they are not indebted to the Society, or
- C. Any member may be removed from membership in this Society for cause as set forth in the Constitution of the National Society and for like reasons, by a two-thirds vote of the members of the Board of Managers as described in <a href="Bylaws Article 10">Bylaws Article 10</a>, <a href="Section 4">Section 4</a>.

<u>Section 2. Ineligibility.</u> Members who have forfeited or withdrawn their membership, or who have had their membership rescinded, are not eligible to participate in the activities of, hold office in, or cast a vote in the business of any Chapter, this Society, or the National Society, effective immediately upon their date of demission. Members demitted from this Society shall not be entitled to a refund of dues.

# **Article VI. – Change of Address**

<u>Section 1. Duty to Inform.</u> It shall be the duty of every member to inform the Secretary, by written communication, of his place of residence, and of any change thereof, and of his post office address, his email address and telephone number.

<u>Section 2. Service of Notice.</u> Service of any notice under the Constitution, or under these Bylaws, upon any member of the Society addressed to him at the last recorded place of residence or post office address and forwarded by mail shall be deemed sufficient service of such notice. E-mail or other forms of communication may be used unless a member specifically requests all communication be through the US Postal Service.

#### **Article VII. – Officer Duties**

#### Section 1. President. The President shall:

- A. Provide the overall leadership to the Society by implementing programs that fulfill the objects of the Society in accordance with Society's Constitution, Bylaws, policies and guidelines,
- B. Be responsible for the conduct the Society in accordance with the Constitution, Bylaws, policies and guidelines established by the National Society,
- C. Preside at all Society meetings and Board of Managers meetings and shall have a casting vote/ballot,
- D. Serve as the executive head of the Society and shall enforce a strict observance of the NESSAR Constitution and Bylaws,
- E. Appoint members to the NESSAR Standing Committees listed in Constitution Article VI, Section 1 and to any Ad Hoc Committees, and
- F. Provide oversight and direction to all committees ensuring their assigned responsibilities are accomplished.

# Section 2. First Vice-President. The First Vice-President shall:

- A. In the absence of the President, perform the duties of the President until his return,
- B. In the event the office of President is vacated, assume the office of President until the Society's next election and installation of officers,
- C. Assist the President in appointing Standing and Ad Hoc Committees,
- D. Be responsible for sourcing and scheduling programs for NESSAR meetings,
- E. Serve as the Chairman of the NESSAR Constitution and Bylaws Committee, and
- F. Assist the President in the discharge of his duties.

#### Section 3. Second Vice-President. The Second Vice-President shall:

- A. In the absence of the President and First Vice-President, perform the duties of the President,
- B. Serve as the Chairman of the Audit Committee, and
- C. Assist the President in the discharge of his duties.

#### Section 4. Secretary. The Secretary shall:

- A. Keep complete and accurate minutes and records of all the proceedings and orders of NESSAR,
- B. Prepare and disseminate all NESSAR correspondence and communications,
- C. Act as the Secretary of the Executive Committee and Board of Managers,
- D. Distribute copies of all NESSAR meeting agendas either electronically or have copies available at all meetings,
- E. Distribute the minutes of each meeting of the Society to the Board of Managers not less than ten (10) days following said meeting,
- F. Distribute the minutes of each meeting of the Executive Committee or Board of Managers not less than ten (10) days following said meeting to the members of those bodies,
- G. Ensure that a schedule of national, state, and chapter dues for the following fiscal year is published on the state Society website by August 1<sup>st</sup> each year,
- H. Under the direction of the President, give due notice of the date, time, and location of all NESSAR meetings at least 10 days prior to said meeting,
- I. Maintain a roster of all NESSAR members in good standing that includes their name, title, address, telephone number, spouse's name, and email address,

- J. Give a report of the membership of the Society, including the number of active members, number of new members, number of applicants awaiting approval, and number of members resigned or deceased at the Spring Meeting and Fall Meeting,
- K. Forward to NESSAR officers such reports and information they may require and/or request,
- L. Serve as the primary point of contact between NESSAR and the National Society, including:
  - (i) Updating the National Society regarding the election or appointment of State and Chapter officers, providing names, offices held, dates of service, current e-mails and current addresses,
  - (ii) Timely reporting of the death of a member of NESSAR, or the change in membership status of any member of the NESSAR, to the National Society, and
  - (iii) Filing a complete and accurate Annual Reconciliation Report with the National Society, in cooperation with the State Treasurer, not later than January 20<sup>th</sup> each year.
- M. Serve as Chairman of the Publicity Committee,
- N. Together with the presiding officer, certify all acts of the Society,
- O. Perform such other duties as maybe assigned to him by the NESSAR President, and
- P. Upon the election of his successor, remand custody of the records in his care in good order to his successor within ten (10) days of his successor's installation.

A member of the Society may be appointed to assist the Secretary in performing his duties.

# Section 5. Treasurer. The Treasurer shall:

- A. Receive and maintain a record of all fees, dues, and other funds of NESSAR, either in a ledger or computer-based accounting system,
- B. Maintain an up-to-date backup copy of any electronic records,
- C. Keep the funds of the Society in a bank account to which the State President is a cosignatory,
- D. Keep a true accounting of all NESSAR funds and expenditures according to regularly accepted accounting practices, and deliver a report of the Society's receipts, expenditures, and account balances at each meeting of the Society and Board of Managers,
- E. Serve as Chairman of the Budget and Finance Committee, and ensure the preparation of an annual budget to be approved by a favorable majority vote of the membership each year at the Spring Meeting of the Society,
- F. Expend funds when directed by the NESSAR President in the form of a properly prepared voucher for budgeted expenditures, or with the approval of a favorable majority of members in attendance at a meeting of the Society for unbudgeted expenditures,
- G. Deposit all funds into the NESSAR account no more than one (1) week after receipt of said funds,
- H. Present any financial information of NESSAR as the NESSAR Officers may request.
- I. Support the Secretary in the timely and accurate completion of the Annual Reconciliation Report, including:
  - (i) The collection of dues and reporting of same to the Secretary,
  - (ii) Assisting in the resolution of any discrepancies between the NESSAR and the National Society on dues payment and membership status, and
  - (iii) Executing the Society's remittance of National dues to the National Society not later than January 20<sup>th</sup> each year.
- J. Perform such other duties as may be assigned to him by the NESSAR President.

K. Upon the election of his successor, remand custody of the records in his care in good order to his successor within 10 days of his successor's installation

A member of the Society may be appointed to assist the Treasurer in performing his duties.

#### Section 6. Registrar. The Registrar shall:

- A. Receive and review all properly completed applications for membership and proofs of eligibility for all NESSAR applicants from the Chapter Registrars,
- B. Assist Chapter Registrars in their efforts to help applicants perfect and complete applications for NESSAR membership, and members in completing supplemental applications,
- C. Forward all properly completed and reviewed NESSAR applications to the NESSAR Secretary for approval by the Board of Managers and submission to the National Society, as described in <a href="Bylaw Article I">Bylaw Article I</a>,
- D. File a copy of membership applications with accompanying proofs upon approval of the National Society,
- E. Issue certificates of membership, signed by the President and Secretary, to the Chapter for presentation for members entitled thereto,
- F. Serve as the Chairman of the Membership Committee, and
- G. Perform such other duties as may be assigned to him by the NESSAR President.

A member of the Society may be appointed to assist the Registrar in performing his duties.

#### Section 7. Chaplain. The Chaplain shall:

- A. Open and close meetings of the Society with such services as are usual and proper on such occasions,
- B. Participate in events and ceremonies of the Society, exercising such duties as ordinarily appertain to his office,
- C. Report to the Society at each state meeting to deliver memorials for recently deceased compatriots that recounts their service as members and recognizes their patriot ancestors, and
- D. Perform such other duties as may be assigned to him by the NESSAR President.

#### Section 8. Historian. The Historian shall:

- A. Maintain a history of the Society that faithfully describes and preserves significant events of interest to future members,
- B. Have custody of all the historical, geographical, and genealogical papers, books, manuscripts, and relics of which the Society may become possessed, and keep an official record that includes date of receipt and who donated or acquired same,
- C. Provide historical articles for each Society newsletter,
- D. Submit content for the Nebraska section of each quarterly National SAR Magazine,
- E. Report to the Society at each state meeting to provide updates on additions or changes to the Society's historical documents and artifacts, and to recognize the anniversaries of significant events in the Society, the National Society, and the American Revolution,
- F. Regularly encourage members to complete biographies of their Patriot ancestors,
- G. Partner with the Nebraska Historical Society to maintain a publicly accessible permanent history of the Society,
- H. Serve as the Chairman of the History Committee, and
- I. Perform such other duties as may be assigned to him by the NESSAR President.

# Section 9. Executive Committee. The Executive Committee shall:

- A. Select the meeting date, time, and place of each meeting of the Society,
- B. Approve by a favorable majority vote the properly completed applications of new members for submission to the National Society in accordance with <a href="Bylaws Article I, Section 6">Bylaws Article I, Section 6</a>, and record the date of such approval in the Society's records and on the application of the new member.
- C. Reinstate a member by a favorable majority vote, unless said member was removed from membership under the provisions of Bylaws Article V, Section 1.C, and
- D. Inform the Board of Managers of any action taken by the Executive Committee within seven (7) days of such action.

# **Article VIII. – National Trustee**

#### Section 1. National Trustee. The National Trustee shall:

- A. Attend and represent NESSAR at all meetings of the National Board of Trustees,
- B. Attend all NESSAR functions and assist the State President in hosting District and National Officers,
- C. Attend District meetings,
- D. Submit to the Board of Managers timely reports of the business enacted and actions under consideration by the National Board of Trustees, and
- E. Encourage NESSAR to recommend qualified members for national committees. These recommendations should be submitted to the National Executive Secretary by May 1<sup>st</sup>.

#### Section 2. Alternate National Trustee. The Alternate National Trustee shall:

- A. In the absence of the National Trustee, attend and represent NESSAR at all meetings of the National Board of Trustees, and
- B. In the event the position of National Trustee is vacated, assume the duties of the National Trustee in accordance with the National Society Bylaws and the Bylaws of this Society.

#### **Article IX. – Standing Committees**

# <u>Section 1. Constitution and Bylaws Committee.</u> The Constitution and Bylaws Committee shall:

- A. Be comprised of the First Vice-President and at least four (4) additional NESSAR members,
- B. Ensure all NESSAR members have access to their Constitution and Bylaws,
- C. Review the NESSAR Constitution and Bylaws bi-annually for accuracy and prepare and present any amendments as necessary. These reviews will be conducted in January of each odd-numbered year for update and presentation to the NESSAR members for approval at the earliest possible NESSAR meeting, and
- D. Maintain records of bi-annual reviews.

#### Section 2. Nominating Committee. The Nominating Committee shall:

- A. Be comprised of a chairman and at least three (3) additional NESSAR members, and its membership shall equally represent each Chapter,
- B. Be appointed at the Spring Meeting of odd-numbered years to present nominations for officers described in <u>Constitution Article V, Sections 1.A, 1.F and 1.G</u> for the NESSAR elections at the Fall Meeting of odd-numbered years,

- C. Submit its nominations in writing to the NESSAR Secretary not later than forty-five (45) days prior to the Fall Meeting of odd-numbered years, and
- D. Ensure its nominees meet the qualifications for holding office according to Constitution Article V, Section 2.

# Section 3. Membership Committee. The Membership Committee shall:

- A. Be composed of the NESSAR Registrar as Chairman and at least two (2) additional NESSAR members.
- B. Ensure the Committee names, chairmen and contact information appear on the NESSAR website, and
- C. Monitor the NSSAR website for application status updates.

# Section 4. Budget and Finance Committee. The Budget and Finance Committee shall:

- A. Be composed of the NESSAR Treasurer as Chairman and two (2) additional NESSAR members.
- B. Exercise management supervision of all NESSAR finances in accordance with the Bylaws,
- C. Prepare an Annual Budget in which the categories and accounts of anticipated income and expenses for the NESSAR Year (January 1 to December 31) are itemized, and
- D. Present the NESSAR Annual Budget at the Spring Meeting for approval of the membership.

# Section 5. Audit Committee. The Audit Committee shall:

- A. Be composed of the NESSAR Second Vice-President as Chairman and at least two (2) additional NESSAR members, and
- B. Accomplish an audit of the NESSAR bank statements, checkbook, and all accounts after the Fall Meeting and submit a report in writing for the Spring Meeting.

# Section 6. Publicity Committee. The Publicity Committee shall:

- A. Be composed of the NESSAR Secretary as Chairman and at least two (2) additional NESSAR members,
- B. Be responsible for providing articles about NESSAR to the editors of "The National SAR Magazine",
- C. Prepare and submit to local media agencies "press releases" of NESSAR activities, and
- D. If warranted, contact local media sources and schedule coverage of NESSAR events.

#### Section 7. First Responders Committee. The First Responders Committee shall:

- A. Be composed of a chairman and at least two (2) additional NESSAR members,
- B. Seek nominations for individuals in the public service sectors of Law Enforcement, Fire Safety, and Emergency Medical Services from NESSAR Chapters approval of the NESSAR First Responders Committee for recipient selection and presentation, and
- C. Coordinate with the NESSAR Publicity Committee for "press releases" and/or media coverage of NESSAR First Responder recognition events.

# Section 8. Eagle Scout Committee. The Eagle Scout Committee shall:

- A. Be composed of a chairman and at least two (2) additional NESSAR members,
- B. Request nominations for the Arthur M. & Berdena King Eagle Scout Award from NESSAR Chapters, and
- C. Coordinate with the NESSAR Publicity Committee for "press releases" and/or media coverage of NESSAR events.

<u>Section 9. ROTC / JROTC Recognition Committee.</u> The Reserve Officer Training (ROTC)/Junior Reserve Officer Training (JROTC) Recognition Committee shall:

- A. Be composed of a chairman and at least two (2) additional NESSAR members,
- B. Provide a listing of all Nebraska schools that have ROTC/JROTC Programs to each Chapter,
- C. Ensure all NESSAR Chapters contact all Nebraska schools with ROTC/JROTC Programs,
- D. Order the requisite number of medals and certificates from NSSAR and distribute to NESSAR presenters as necessary, and
- E. Maintain records of when and to whom medals were awarded as well as who made the presentation.

# Section 10. Flag Committee. The Flag Committee shall:

- A. Be composed of a chairman and at least two (2) additional NESSAR members.
- B. Assist NESSAR Chapters in developing and maintaining programs that will educate and motivate NESSAR members to participate in the NESSAR Flag Program and ensure that Flag Certificates are presented to deserving individuals, corporations, businesses, fire and police departments, schools, libraries, etc.,
- C. Assist NESSAR Chapters in developing and maintaining programs to present to youth groups and educate them about the proper respect for the United States Flag and its history, and
- D. Encourage NESSAR members to display the United States Flag outside their homes and businesses.

# Section 11. Color Guard. The Color Guard shall:

- A. Be composed of a Color Guard Commander and at least four (4) additional NESSAR members,
- B. Schedule and coordinate all NESSAR Society level Color Guard Flag presentations,
- C. Maintain records of Flag presentations to include, but not limited to:
  - (i) Date of presentation,
  - (ii) Location of presentation, and
  - (iii) Compatriots who participated.
- D. Maintain a roster of each NESSAR Chapter's Color Guard members and their contact information, and
- E. Keep the NESSAR President informed of all Color Guard activities.

# Section 11. Medals and Awards. The Medals and Awards Committee shall:

- A. Be composed of a chairman and at least two (2) additional NESSAR members with representation from each NESSAR Chapter,
- B. Shall be responsible for NESSAR and National Medals, Awards and Certificates which does not include First Responder, Eagle Scout, ROTC/JROTC, Flag, or Color Guard Medals, Awards, or Certificates,
- C. Request nominations from the NESSAR Chapters for State and National Medals and Awards in November each year to recognize nominees for their efforts in furthering the purposes and objectives of the Sons of the American Revolution,
- D. Meet to either approve or disapprove nominations,
- E. Present all nominations to the NESSAR President for his approval,
- F. Procure for presentation NESSAR Medals and Awards following approval of the NESSAR President to include a short description of the medal or award and why the compatriot earned the medal or award,
- G. Assist the President in the presentation of Medals, Awards, and Certificates at the NESSAR Spring Meeting,
- H. Request an annual report from each Chapter President of Chapter level medals and awards presented for purposes of recordkeeping, and

- I. For each Medal, Award, and Certificate, maintain a record of:
  - (i) Recipients name,
  - (ii) Level of medal, award, or certificate (Chapter, Society, or National),
  - (iii) Date of presentation, and
  - (iv) Name of presenter.

#### Section 12. History Committee. The History Committee shall:

- A. Be composed of the NESSAR Historian as the Chairman, the NESSAR Registrar, and at least one (1) additional NESSAR member,
- B. Have custody of all NESSAR historical, geographical, genealogical papers, books, manuscripts, and relics that NESSAR may possess while keeping an official record of same, and
- C. Shall maintain a register of the names and dates of admission, transfer, resignation, and death of NESSAR members.

# Article X. - Board of Managers

<u>Section 1. Purpose.</u> The Board of Managers shall recommend plans for promoting the objects of the Society. In general, they shall superintend the interest and affairs of the Society, suggesting from time to time such measures as they deem conducive to its prosperity, and shall report to the Society at the Spring Meeting and Fall Meeting.

<u>Section 2. National Trustee Nomination.</u> The Board of Managers shall nominate candidates for National Trustee and Alternate National Trustee, to be approved by a favorable majority vote of the members of the Society in attendance at the Spring Meeting each year.

<u>Section 3. Officer Vacancies.</u> The Board of Managers shall have power to fill a vacancy in the offices of First Vice-President, Second Vice-President, Secretary, Treasurer or Registrar by a majority vote of the Board of Managers. An officer so appointed shall serve until the Society's next election and installation of officers.

<u>Section 4. Member Removal.</u> The Board of Managers shall have power to suspend or expel any member of the Society for sufficient cause, by a vote of two-thirds (2/3) of the members of the Board present at any regular or special meeting; provided, that at least two (2) weeks' notice of such proposed action shall have been given to such member by notice mailed to him at his last known address. A member so suspended or expelled shall have the right of appeal to the Society as a whole in a State Meeting and shall be reinstated to membership upon a favorable majority vote of the members in attendance at said meeting.

<u>Section 5. Meetings.</u> The Board of Managers shall meet at least two (2) weeks prior to each Spring Meeting and Fall Meeting, or at the call of the President, or upon the written request of any three (3) members of the Board. The meeting may be held by e-mail or other electronic methods. Three (3) members of the Board shall be a quorum for the transaction of business.

<u>Section 6. Financial Oversight.</u> The Board of Managers shall superintend the finances of the Society, ensuring that funds are employed only for the objects and purposes of the Society and no other, viz.:

- A. Payment of the annual dues to the National Society,
- B. Payment of current budgeted expenses of the Society,
- C. Payment of such unbudgeted expenses as may be authorized by the vote of two-thirds (2/3) of the Board of Managers, and subject to ratification by a majority of members present at the next meeting of the Society, and
- D. All receipts from State Life Memberships shall be set aside and invested as a permanent fund, of which only the income may be used for payment of ordinary expenses.

<u>Section 7. Publication Oversight.</u> The Board of Managers shall supervise all publications issued in the name of the Society and ensure their compliance with State and National Society guidelines.

<u>Section 8. Dues Recommendation</u>. The Board of Managers shall recommend to the membership of the Society the amount of annual dues to be paid by each member for annual Society Membership and for State Life Membership. Such recommendation shall be considered by the membership at the Annual Spring Meeting.

<u>Section 9. Other Duties.</u> The Board of Managers shall perform such other duties as may be prescribed by the Constitution and Bylaws, or as required by any resolution or standing regulation of the Society.

#### **Article XI. – Order of Business**

<u>Section 1. Order of Business.</u> At all meetings of this Society, the following Order of Business shall be observed, viz:

- I. President's Call to Order and Welcome
- II. Pledge of Allegiance
- III. SAR Pledge
- IV. Introduction of new members and guests
- V. Reading and approval of minutes from previous meeting
- VI. Presentation of Awards
- VII. Officer's Reports
  - A. President
  - B. Secretary
  - C. Treasurer
  - D. Registrar
  - E. Chaplain
  - F. Historian
  - G. Board of Managers
  - H. Other official reports (as required)
- VIII. Committee Reports
  - IX. Unfinished/Old business

- X. Approval of annual Society dues and State Life Membership dues (Spring Meeting)
- XI. Election and installation of Officers and Board of Managers
- XII. New business and correspondence
- XIII. Introduction of the speaker or program
- XIV. President's remarks and thanks for program
- XV. Closing Until We Meet Again
- XVI. Announcement of Next Meeting Date/Time/Location
- XVII. Motion to adjourn
- XVIII. Adjournment

<u>Section 2. Presidential Discretion.</u> The President may modify the sequence of the Order of Business at his discretion and may omit items if there is nothing to be reported.

<u>Section 3. Voting Procedure.</u> The ayes and nays shall be called for business requiring a vote of the membership. A roll call vote shall be taken upon the demand of five (5) members.

# **Article XII. – Chapters**

<u>Section 1. Formation.</u> Ten (10) or more members of this Society, resident in any county or locality in this state, as may be approved by the Board of Managers, may form themselves into a Chapter to be called by such name as said members may assume. A charter may be granted to such Chapter by the Board of Managers, of such form as the Board may provide, upon the application made in writing by ten (10) or more members of the Society, stating the name to be assumed, the location and the names and residences of its proposed members. Such Chapter will enact such Constitution and Bylaws as will not conflict with the rules and requirements of the National Society or of this Society and its Constitution or Bylaws, and it may be required to pay a per capita tax to this Society. If the application to form a new Chapter is approved by the Board of Managers, it shall direct the preparation of a charter and shall arrange for it to be presented with a proper ceremony conducted by the State President.

Section 2. Naming.	Local Chapters shall be	known as The	Chapter of	of the Nebraska
Society of Sons of the Ame	rican Revolution, No.			

<u>Section 3. Membership.</u> No person may be admitted a Chapter unless he be a member in good standing of this Society. If any member of such Chapter should cease to be a member of the Society, his membership in the Chapter shall cease.

<u>Section 4. Elections.</u> Chapter elections of Officers will be held in the fall of odd-numbered years prior to the Fall Meeting of the Society. Chapter Officers shall serve two-year (2) terms and take office in January.

#### Article XIII. - Seal

<u>Section 1. Seal.</u> The Seal of this Society shall be the same as the Seal of The National Society, Sons of the American Revolution, except that "Nebraska" shall be substituted for "National" and for "April 30, 1889" there shall be substituted the date of the organization of the Nebraska Society, to wit: "April 23, 1890".

# Article XIV. - Prohibition of Party Politics

<u>Section 1. Prohibition of Party Politics.</u> No question involving the party politics of the day within the United States shall ever be discussed or considered in any meeting of the Society.

### **Article XV. - Amendments**

<u>Section 1. Amendments.</u> These Bylaws may be altered, amended, or repealed in the manner hereinbefore provided for changing the Constitution of this Society.