

BYLAWS

OF

THE COLORADO SOCIETY OF THE SONS OF THE AMERICAN REVOLUTION

Adopted 24 February 1990

Amended 23 February 1991, 22 February 1992

22 February 2002, 23 February 2003, 21 February 2004,

25 February 2006

ARTICLE 1: OFFICERS

Every officer of this Society in the performance of his official duties shall act at all times wholly within the scope and intent of the charter Constitution and Bylaws of the National Society of the Sons of the American Revolution and the Constitution and Articles of the Incorporation of the Colorado Society of the Sons of the American Revolution.

In addition to the general duties and powers which customarily appertain to their respective offices, the officers enumerated under Article IV of the Constitution of this Society shall have such duties as are hereinafter imposed, and such powers as are hereinafter conferred, or which may be delegated to them by the Board of Managers.

President:

The President shall be the chief executive officer of this Society and shall exercise general control over its affairs under authority of the Board of Managers and this Constitution and Bylaws. He shall preside as Chairman at all regular and special meetings of this Society and shall call and preside over meetings of the Board of Managers.

Vice President:

The Vice President, in the absence or incapacity of the President to serve, shall serve and perform all the duties and exercise all of the powers of the President. In addition, the Vice President shall be in charge of all programs for meetings of this Society.

Recording Secretary/Historian:

At the direction of the President, the Recording Secretary/Historian shall call all meetings of the Society and of the Board. He shall keep a fair and accurate record of the proceedings of all meetings of the Society and Board. Under the direction of the President he shall conduct the general correspondence of both. He shall turn over to his successor any or all such records and correspondence, when he shall for any reason leave office. At the adoption of the original Bylaws the Recording Secretary/Historian shall compile a history of this Society to date, including: a chronological list of all officers with dates of service and other pertinent information, a chronological account of the more important activities of the Society since its founding; and other data as appropriate. Subsequent Recording Secretary/Historian shall keep this historical record current annually.

Treasurer:

The Treasurer shall properly bill all Society members for application fees and annual dues payable to the Society or to the National Society (or by mutual agreement any of the Colorado Chapters); provided that if such Colorado Chapters render billing, the Treasurer shall not be required to send out duplicate bills. He shall receive all moneys paid into the Society funds, and shall deposit the same in such depository as shall be designated by the Board of Managers. He shall receive all moneys paid in for the account of the National Society (or any of the Colorado Chapters), and shall remit the same to the National Society (or the involved Chapter). He shall make all disbursements of the Society funds; provided that he shall secure from the Board of Managers prior authority for all disbursements save only routine or incidental current operating expenses. He shall keep a fair and accurate record of all funds and financial transactions of the Society, and he shall turn over such records to his successor when he shall, for any reason, leave office; and during his term of office he shall present such records to the Board of Managers for auditing and review when so requested by the Board. He may serve without bond, at the discretion of the Board of Managers, but he shall have the privilege of being bonded at the Society's expense if he chooses to do so.

Membership Secretary/Registrar:

The Membership Secretary/Registrar shall examine all applications for membership, and shall make appropriate recommendations thereon to the National Society. He shall have the care and custody of all membership records, and shall keep a complete registrar of the names, dates of birth, dates of admission, resignations, expulsions or deaths, or other demission of all members, together with pertinent information concerning applicants who are refused admission. He shall offer proper assistance to members or prospective members in matters relating to their genealogy, and shall assist in the examination and evaluation of applications for membership.

Chancellor:

When possible the Chancellor shall be an attorney at law, and it shall be his duty to give opinions on legal matters affecting the Society when such questions are referred to him by the proper officers.

Chaplain:

The Chaplain shall usually be an ordained minister. If no member is a minister available to serve, a layman, preferably closely identified with affairs of the church, may serve. He shall pronounce the Invocation and the Benediction at all Society meetings and upon other appropriate occasions. He shall perform such other religious functions as shall to him seem proper, under authority of the Board of Managers

National Trustee:

At the Annual Meeting of this Society a member in good standing shall be nominated as the National Trustee from Colorado, subject to the approval at the next National Congress of the Society. This is a National and not a State Office. The member so nominated shall have served as President of the Colorado Society, unless in the opinion of the members attending the Annual Meeting of the Colorado Society the nominee shall have other qualifications that entitle him to be considered for this post.

ARTICLE II: BOARD OF MANAGERS

The Board of Managers shall be composed of voting members as set forth in Article IV of the Constitution. In addition to the general duties and powers set forth therein, the Board of Managers shall:

1. Act to audit and review the Treasurer's records at least every two years and before they are turned over to his successor.
2. Meet promptly after its election for the purpose of preparing a budget of expected revenues and proposed expenditures for the ensuing year.
3. Approve or disapprove all expenditures of Society funds excepting only routine or incidental current operating expenses. Specific items in the budget are considered to have Board approval.
4. In the case of a vacancy or temporary disability of an officer or Board member, appoint a member of the Society in good standing to fill such vacancy until the next Annual Meeting or during the temporary disability, except as otherwise provided herein.
5. Make proper recommendations to the National Society that it discipline or expel any member who by conduct disloyal to the ideals or prejudicial to the interest of the Sons of the American Revolution, shall render himself unworthy of membership in this Society; provided that the accused shall have had due notice and an opportunity to be heard.
6. Meet in executive session upon the call of the President, provided that the Board may call itself into executive session without issuance of a call by the President, upon the written request of eight of its members.
7. Be empowered to issue charters creating local Chapters of the Sons of the American Revolution in the State of Colorado upon petition by a least 10 members then in good standing of the Colorado Society and in a contiguous area of the state, who desire to comprise the membership of such Chapter; and shall be empowered to de-activate a local Chapter whose regular membership falls below ten (10) as of 31 March of any year.
8. At all times in the performance of its official duties, act wholly within the scope and intent of the charter Constitution and Bylaws of the National Society of the Sons of the American Revolution and of the Constitution Articles of the Incorporation of the Colorado Society of the Sons of the American Revolution.
9. Adhere to the following order of business at a meeting of the Board of Managers:
 - (1) Call to order.
 - (2) Read the minutes of the previous Board of Managers meeting.
 - (3) Reports of Officers and Chapters.
 - (4) Reports of Standing and Special Committees.
 - (5) Complete unfinished Business.
 - (6) Act on New Business.
 - (7) Adjournment

ARTICLE III: MEMBERSHIP

Eligibility for membership in this Society shall be in accordance with Article III of the State Society's Constitution, and with appropriate provisions of the Constitution and Bylaws of the

National Society. Application for membership shall be accompanied by an application fee as prescribed by the Board of Managers and in addition to the fee required by the National Society. If an applicant's application is disapproved, these fees shall be returned to him.

Supplemental Applications showing lines of descent from other ancestors in the Revolution may be filed at any time.

Current year dues based on the calendar year are due and payable before January first and are delinquent after that date, at which time a delinquent member shall be dropped from the rolls of this Society, and the Annual Report to the National Society shall show him as having become "inactive" for lack of payment of dues. On December first of the current year, the appropriate Treasurer (Chapter for those members or State for At-Large members) shall send a "Final Notice" to all members who have not paid their current dues advising them that they will be dropped from the rolls unless their dues are paid prior to January first and that reinstatement will require the payment of current year National and State and, if applicable, chapter dues plus a \$5.00 processing fee.

Any member may be disciplined or expelled from this Society in accordance with Section 3, Article 17 of the National Bylaws. The Board of Managers by a two-thirds affirmative vote may initiate action to discipline or expel. It shall thoroughly investigate any written complaints against any member, if signed by ten members in good standing. If, after hearing the accused, the Board shall find against him, it shall promptly so notify the Executive Committee of the National Society, who shall thenceforth have complete jurisdiction in the case.

Every member shall be entitled to a certificate of membership attested by the officers of the National Society and countersigned by the President and the Recording Secretary/Historian of the Colorado Society. Every new member, on acceptance into this Society, is presented with either a rosette or a lapel bar showing his membership, and he may purchase a gold or silver badge at the price contracted by the National Society on signing the agreement.

A member may resign provided his obligations to the Society are paid in full to the effective date of his resignation.

A member in good standing in any other State Society may, without payment of an admission fee, transfer to this Society; but if he desires membership in a Chapter, he shall make application for the transfer through that chapter, he shall meet the Chapter's requirements for dues in addition to those stipulated above and below. "Any transfer shall be contingent upon his having the consent and certification of his former State Society and the acceptance of the Board of Managers of the Colorado Society." Although no admission fee is charged, a member seeking to transfer into the Colorado Society must furnish this Society a copy of his original SAR application paper, excluding documentation, or pay the current fee for the State Society's obtaining the copy from the National Society Headquarters.

Any member of this Society moving to another state may transfer his membership to that State Society, said transfer being effective only after its acceptance by the other State Society. For making the necessary copy and records and to cover the expense of such transfer, the Membership Secretary/Registrar may charge a fee to be determined by the Board of Managers.

The official designation of the members of the National Society of the Sons of the American Revolution and this Society shall be "Compatriots".

A member may designate whether he desires to be a member of the local Chapter where such exists and if acceptable to that Chapter, he shall be considered a member and the Chapter receiving his dues shall remit his State and National dues to the Treasurer of the Colorado Society, who shall then make the proper remittance to the National Society Headquarters. If no such chapter is designated, then he shall be considered a member "At-Large" without affiliation to any local Chapter.

In order that a member shall be qualified to vote at any meeting or be eligible for office, he shall be in good standing, which shall be taken to mean that after January first of any year, his dues shall be paid for the current year.

ARTICLE IV: NOMINATIONS AND ELECTIONS

The officers enumerated in Article IV of the Constitution of this Society shall be elected by letter ballot sent to all members in good standing at least thirty days prior to the Annual Meeting; The ballots may be mailed back or cast at the meeting. To be valid, any mailed ballots must be received by the time of the meeting.

At least sixty (60) days prior to the Annual Meeting, the President shall name the Nominating Committee consisting of a Chairman chosen from the Board of Managers and one member from each local Chapter. This committee shall prepare a written report for the Board of Managers containing the names of the members in good standing who are nominees who have accepted nomination for each office or for the Board of Managers. This report shall then be taken under advisement by the Board of Managers, who will accept, alter, amend, or reject the report. The Recording Secretary/Historian shall prepare a ballot containing the names of the nominees as shown in the approved version of the Nominating Committee's report or, if that report is rejected, a list compiled by the Board of Managers. A blank line shall be provided for a write-in vote for each position. This ballot together with the Annual Meeting notice shall be mailed thirty (30) days before said meeting.

Voting instructions on the Ballot shall contain the following information: "Any ballot cast by mail shall be properly marked and sealed in a plain envelope with no outside markings, except the word BALLOT, which shall be enclosed in an outer envelope addressed to the Society and bearing the name of the sender. Ballots shall be opened and counted during the Annual Meeting by the three tellers appointed by the President at the Annual Meeting. The Tellers shall screen names so that any ballots cast at the Annual Meeting shall not duplicate mailed ballots. Nominations from the floor shall be permitted, and the winning candidates shall be determined by a plurality of votes cast by members in good standing in accordance with the provisions of these Articles."

ORDER OF BUSINESS at the Annual Meeting shall be as follows:

1. Call to order by the State President
2. Appointment of three Tellers and of Committee on Credentials and Resolutions
3. Read the Minutes of the previous Annual Meeting
4. Reports of officers and the Board of Managers, and Chapters
5. Reports of Standing Committees
6. Complete unfinished business
7. Act on new business, including resolutions, amendments, etc.
8. Nomination and election of officers and Board of Managers.
9. Adjournment

PROPOSED RESOLUTIONS shall be submitted 30 days prior the Annual Meeting and shall be presented in writing and referred to a committee for recommendations at the Annual Meeting.

ARTICLE V: MEETINGS

In addition to the Annual Meeting prescribed in Article V of the Constitution, the President may, with the advice and consent of the Board of Managers, call other meetings of the membership for the transaction of business requiring membership approval.

The Colorado Society shall hold its annual meeting, to be called the Annual State Conference, on the Saturday either before or after George Washington's birthday of February 22nd, as stipulated in Article V, Section 1 of the Colorado Society Constitution. Following the meal for that occasion, the awards shall be presented, officers and members of the Board of Managers for the ensuing year shall be inducted and sworn into office by the outgoing President or his appointee, and the newly installed President, or his designated substitute, shall present the outgoing President with his Past President's pin, to be furnished by the State Society and not to require Board approval for the expenditure. In addition to the State Conference, this Society shall hold a summer picnic at a time and place designated by the Society President, provided that the date follows the National Society's Annual Congress. The Society recommends but does not mandate that chapters within this jurisdiction observe Patriot's Day (19 April) and SAR Founders' Day (30 April) in a combined function during the month of April; Constitution Day (17 September); and Bill of Rights Day (15 December, but an earlier date in December may be preferred because of the Christmas rush). The annual visit of the President General (usually every November) shall be a function of the State Society and not the function of any chapter thereof.

Written notice of the Annual State Conference, stating the business if any, to be transacted, must be sent to each member ten days in advance. Except in emergency situations, no other business shall be considered. Other meetings may be called by the President of the Society under provisions of Article V, Section 4 of the Constitution of the Colorado Society.

ARTICLE VI: FEES AND DUES

An initial Application fee and annual dues for the State and National Societies shall be paid by all members of this Society in accordance with Article VI of the COS Constitution and Article III of

these Bylaws; power to determine both application fee and annual dues of the State Society is vested in the Board of Managers. Annual dues for current members shall be payable in December of each year. Upon application for membership, the applicant shall pay the following: If applying for At-Large membership, both State and National application fees plus first year dues for both these entities; if applying through a chapter, the Chapter application fee in addition to charges specified for State and National Societies. Any member who is delinquent in the payment of his annual dues shall be automatically dropped from the roll of membership as prescribed in Article III of these Bylaws. He may be reinstated according to the provisions in Article III, Paragraph 3 of these Bylaws.

The Board of Managers shall set the amount of annual dues for our-of-state members, student members, members of the Armed Forces, members who by reason of age, fixed income, illness or disability are no longer able to pay regular dues; and the Board may in proper cases remit part or all of said dues. (Pursuant to provisions of Subparagraph (d) of Section 7 of Bylaw No. 2, National Society of the Sons of the American Revolution.)

Members in good standing of the Children of the American Revolution or of the Children of the Revolution, who have not attained the age of 22, and who are duly elected to membership in the State Society, shall not be charged either an Initial Application fee, or annual dues for the year in which their Initial Application is approved. Such person shall, however, pay to the National Society SAR \$5.00 for his, certificate of membership as per the current NSSAR Handbook in the possession of the COSSAR President, and to the Colorado Society \$3.00 to cover costs of handling the transfer. Total State and National fee for the transfer from CAR shall be \$8.00. Chapters may institute a small handling fee if they deem such charge necessary. Further, any applicant under the age of 25 who qualifies for the \$5.00 fee, as specified on Page 55 of the 1993 NSSAR Handbook concerning NSSAR Bylaw 19, shall also pay the \$3.00 handling fee to COS for a total of \$8.00.

ARTICLE VII: COMMITTEES

Except as otherwise provided herein, The President with the advice and consent of the board of Managers shall determine which committees are needed. The President shall appoint all committee chairmen. Further the President shall appoint all members of the Nominating Committee and the Awards Committee, insuring that each of these two committees has at least one member from each local chapter.

The regular Standing Committees of this Society are these: Awards, Legislative, Membership, Nominating, Publicity, Budget/Finance, ROTC, Eagle Scout, and all Standing and Special committees as may be necessary from time to time for limited purposes. The President shall notify the Recording Secretary/Historian and the Board of Managers of the membership of such committees and their purposes.

All Standing and special Committees are to report their activities at the Annual Meeting each year, or more frequently as directed.

ARTICLE VIII: DELEGATES TO CONGRESS

At a regular meeting of the Board of Managers and at Least sixty (60) days before the Annual National Congress of the National Society of the Sons of the American Revolution, the selection and designation of Delegates and Alternates to said Congress shall be made in accord with the provisions of the Bylaws of the National Society of the Sons of the American Revolution, No. 20, Sections 1 (a), (b), (c), (d) and (e), and Section 2 (a) and (b) from among the members in good standing of this Society , who have indicated their desire, willingness, and ability to attend the Congress of the National Society of the Sons of the American Revolution and participate in the proceedings thereof, thereby reflecting credit upon themselves and this Society. That said delegates shall faithfully comply with any instructions communicated to them by this Society and in other matters will at all times use their best judgment for the good of this Society and the National Society of the Sons of the American Revolution.

ARTICLE IX: QUORUMS AND PROXIES

At any meeting of this Society, a quorum shall be fifteen members in good standing; a member must be present in person to cast his vote, except for written votes for officers, board members or amendments. There shall be no votes taken by proxy unless provided for herein. A plurality of the eligible votes shall decide all issues properly coming before a meeting. The same provisions apply to meetings of the Board of Managers, except that a quorum shall be eight members in good standing.

ARTICLE X: SEAL

The Seal of this Society shall be the same as that of the National Society except that the legend "The Colorado Society of the Sons of the American Revolution, Organized July 4, 1896, Incorporated August 29th, 1906," shall be submitted for the legend of the National Society.

ARTICLE XI: INSIGNIA

The Insignia of the Society shall comprise the following: (1) A badge consisting of a cross surmounted by an eagle in gold, and (2) a rosette or lapel bar displaying the colors of the Society – both as prescribed by and obtained through the National Society of the Sons of the American Revolution.

The rosette or lapel bar may be worn by all members at their discretion on the upper left hand lapel of the coat. The badge may be purchased through the Membership Secretary/Registrar or Treasurer on agreement as to its proper use and return under the conditions fixed by the National Society.

ARTICLE XII: PARLIAMENTARY PROCEDURES

ALL MEETINGS of this Society shall be governed by the current edition of Robert's Rules of Order, if not inconsistent with provisions herein.

ARTICLE XIII: AMENDMENTS

Amendments to these Bylaws shall be made in accord with the same provisions as in Article VIII of the Society's Constitution.