

ARTICLE XIII – NATIONAL VFW RIDERS

Sec. 1301 - Formation.

- (a) *The National VFW Riders is a membership association separately constituted as a subordinate unit chartered by the Veterans of Foreign Wars of the United States. Such association shall be governed by and subject to the jurisdiction of the National Convention of the Veterans of Foreign Wars of the United States, the Commander-in-Chief, the National Council of Administration, and shall be governed by and subject to jurisdiction of the respective Department Convention, Commander and Council of Administration or Post.*
- (b) *The National VFW Riders shall be governed by such Bylaws and Ritual as may be adopted by it, and by the lawful orders issued by its National Officers, provided such Bylaws, Ritual and Orders do not conflict with the Congressional Charter, Bylaws, Manual of Procedure or Ritual of the Veterans of Foreign Wars of the United States or the lawful orders or directives of the National Convention, the Commander-in-Chief or the National Council of Administration of the Veterans of Foreign Wars of the United States.*
- (c) *The National VFW Riders may issue charters to subordinate chapters, provided that the establishment of such chapter shall have been approved by the respective Department or Post of the Veterans of Foreign Wars of the United States and subject to its control. Formation, control and disbandment of National VFW Riders chapters, as well as suspension or cancellation of charters, shall be in the manner prescribed in the Manual of Procedure.*

Sec. 1302 - Eligibility.

Eligibility for membership in the National VFW Riders shall be limited to those members of the Veterans of Foreign Wars of the United States who have met the requirements as outlined in the National VFW Riders Bylaws and have been approved for membership by a majority vote of the members present and voting at a meeting of a chapter. Application for membership and certification thereof will be in the manner prescribed in the Manual of Procedure.

Sec. 1303 - Bylaws, Ritual.

The National VFW Riders may adopt such Bylaws and Ritual as are deemed necessary and may authorize subordinate chapters to adopt Bylaws. In the event any part of the Bylaws and Ritual so adopted are inconsistent with the Congressional Charter, Bylaws, Manual of Procedure or Ritual of the Veterans of Foreign Wars of the United States, or the Bylaws, Rules and Regulations and Procedures of the respective Department or Post, such part shall be considered null and void.

Sec. 1304 - Incorporation.

- (a) *The National VFW Riders is authorized to incorporate under appropriate not for profit corporation laws, provide such incorporation, and the Articles of Incorporation and any amendments thereto, are reviewed and approved by the Commander-in-Chief and approved by a two-thirds (2/3) vote of the VFW Riders National Convention and provided further that the Articles of Incorporation include those provisions specified in Section 708 the Manual of Procedure. Failure to comply with these provisions will result in suspension or revocation of the charter.*

(b) *The National VFW Riders, by duly approved amendments to its Bylaws, authorize subordinate chapters to incorporate under appropriate not for profit corporation laws and may adopt such rules and regulations as are appropriate concerning such incorporation, provided that the respective Department or unit of the Veterans of Foreign Wars of the United States approves such incorporation, which approval shall be in the same manner as for the initial formation of a subordinate chapter, and approves the Articles of Incorporation and any amendments thereto and, provided further, that the Articles of Incorporation of any such corporation include the provisions specified in Section 708 of the Manual of Procedure. Should any state law prohibit the provisions specified in the Manual of Procedure for Articles of Incorporation, it shall be permissible to change the provisions sufficiently to conform to state law so long as the change is not inconsistent with the purposes of the Manual of Procedure provision. Failure to comply with those provisions will result in suspension or revocation of the charter.*

(End of Article XIII)

ARTICLE XIV – AMENDMENTS

Sec. 1401 - Amendments.

Bylaws: Any member in good standing, a Post, a District, or a Department, may propose an amendment to the National Bylaws; provided, however, before consideration at the National Convention, the proposed amendment must be approved by a Department Convention. Immediately following a Department Convention, the proposed amendments must be forwarded to National Headquarters.

A national officer may propose an amendment to the National Bylaws and forward the proposed amendment to the Adjutant General.

All proposed amendments will be available to each Post by the Adjutant General at least fifteen (15) days before the assembling of the National Convention.

Amendments require a two-thirds vote of the delegates present and voting at the National Convention.

All amendments adopted at any National Convention according to the provisions of this section shall take effect thirty (30) days after the final adjournment of the National Convention at which they were adopted, unless specifically stated otherwise in the amendment.

The Adjutant General shall be authorized to correct article and section designations, punctuation and cross references and to make such other technical and conforming changes as may be necessary to reflect the intent of the National Convention in connection with these Bylaws.

Manual of Procedure and Ritual: Amendments to the Manual of Procedure and Ritual will be in accordance with Section 1401 of the Manual of Procedure.

(End of Article XIV)