

Preamble to the American Legion Auxiliary's Constitution and By-laws:

For God and Country, we associate ourselves together for the following purposes: To uphold and defend the constitution of the United States of America; to maintain law and order; to foster and perpetuate a one hundred per cent Americanism; to preserve the memories and incidents of our associations during the Great Wars; to inculcate a sense of individual obligation to the community, state and nation; to combat the autocracy of both the classes and the masses; to make right the master of might; to promote peace and goodwill on earth; to safeguard and transmit to posterity the principles of justice, freedom, and democracy; to participate in and contribute to the accomplishment of the aims and purposes of The American Legion; to consecrate and sanctify our association by our devotion to mutual helpfulness.

DEPARTMENT OF MICHIGAN

CONSTITUTION

ARTICLE I - NAME

The name of this organization shall be American Legion Auxiliary, Department of Michigan.

ARTICLE II - PURPOSE

SECTION 1. The purpose of this organization shall be to assist the American Legion in the accomplishment of its objects and purposes and to fulfill the purposes of the American Legion Auxiliary.

SECTION 2. The American Legion Auxiliary is a civilian organization of women. Each member shall perform her full duty as a citizen according to her own conscience and understanding and according to the Constitution of the United States and the Constitution of the American Legion Auxiliary.

SECTION 3. The American Legion Auxiliary shall be absolutely non-political and shall not be used for the dissemination of partisan principles nor for the promotion of the candidacy of any person seeking public office or preferment.

SECTION 4. The American Legion Auxiliary Department of Michigan shall not be a member of, or affiliated with, any organization, committee, association, council or group, whereby the American Legion Auxiliary might be committed to a policy contrary to that adopted by The American Legion.

ARTICLE III - ELIGIBILITY AND MEMBERS

SECTION 1. Membership in the American Legion Auxiliary shall be limited to the grandmothers, mothers, sisters, wives, and direct and adopted female descendants of members of The American Legion, and to the grandmothers, mothers, sisters, wives and direct and adopted female descendants of all men and women who were in the Armed Forces of the United States during any of the following periods: April 6, 1917 to November 11, 1918; December 7, 1941 to December 31, 1946; June 25, 1950 to January 31, 1955; February 28, 1961 to May 7, 1975; August 24, 1982 to July 31, 1984; December 20, 1989 to January 31, 1990; August 2, 1990 to the date of cessation of hostilities as determined by the Government of the United States, all dates inclusive, or who, being citizens of the United States at the time of their entry therein, served on active duty in the Armed Forces of any of the Governments associated with the United States during any of said periods, and died in line of duty or after honorable discharge; and to those women who of their own right are eligible for membership in The American Legion.

SECTION 2. There shall be two classes of membership; senior and junior.

- (a) Senior membership shall be composed of members over the age of eighteen (18) years; with the exception, however, that a wife under the age of eighteen (18) years, who is eligible under Section 1 of this Article shall be classed as a senior member.
- (b) Junior membership shall consist of that group under the age of eighteen (18) years, whose activities shall be supervised by the senior membership. Upon reaching the age

of eighteen (18) years, junior members shall automatically be admitted to senior membership with full privileges.

- (c) Dues for both classes shall be paid annually, or for life.

ARTICLE IV - PARLIAMENTARY AUTHORITY

SECTION 1. This Department organization shall be governed by the current edition of "Robert's Rules of Order, Newly Revised", in all questions not covered by the National and Department Constitution.

ARTICLE V - AMENDMENTS

SECTION 1. This Constitution may be amended at any Department Convention by a vote of two-thirds (2/3) of the delegates present and voting, provided the proposed amendments shall have been submitted through the Department Secretary to the Units and members of the Department Executive Committee by mailing same to them at least forty-five (45) days prior to the convening of the next Department Convention; and provided further, that all proposed amendments shall be read at a regular meeting of the Convention.

SECTION 2. Necessary amendments proposed after distribution or revision as shown in Section 1, may be adopted by a two-thirds (2/3) vote of the delegates present and voting, provided they have been read at one (1) meeting of the session prior to taking the vote.

SECTION 3. An amendment not having been previously read or distributed as required in Section 1, may be adopted by the unanimous vote of the delegates present and voting.

SECTION 4. Triplicate copies of the amendment pertaining to the Constitution shall be in Department Headquarters not later than sixty (60) days prior to the opening of the Department Convention.

SECTION 5. This Constitution shall be automatically amended to conform to the National Constitution and Bylaws and in such Standing Rules as have been duly adopted and set forth in the Unit Guidebook of the American Legion Auxiliary.