

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

UNIFORM UNIT CONSTITUTION

Updated June, 2017

ARTICLE I – NAME

The name of this organization shall be American Legion Auxiliary, Unit of Post No. _____, The American Legion, and 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. This Unit of the American Legion Auxiliary 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

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 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 years, junior members shall automatically be admitted to senior membership with full privileges.

SECTION 3. Dues shall be paid annually or for life.

ARTICLE IV – UNIT OFFICERS

There shall be a President, Vice President(s), Chaplain, Historian and Sergeant-at-arms who shall be elected not less than thirty (30) days prior to the opening of the Department Convention and who shall hold office for one (1) year or until their successors are elected. The Unit may elect or appoint the Secretary, Treasurer (Secretary-Treasurer); said decision to be governed by a Standing Rule within the Unit. She shall be a member of the Executive Committee with vote.

ARTICLE V – EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE

SECTION 1 – The Executive Committee shall consist of the officers and three (3) additional members to be elected at the annual meeting. This committee shall hold office for one (1) year or until their successors is chosen.

SECTION 2- The Retiring President shall be a member of the Executive Committee with vote.

ARTICLE VI – AUTHORITY

This Unit organization shall be governed by the current edition of “Robert’s Rules of Order, Newly Revised”, in all questions not governed by articles of the National Constitution, the Department Constitution and the Unit Constitution.

ARTICLE VII – AMENDMENTS

This Constitution may be amended at a Department Convention by a two-thirds ($\frac{2}{3}$) vote of delegates present and voting, provided the proposed amendment be written in resolution form and has been read in the Convention at a previous meeting before action is taken, or has been distributed to all Units in printed form at least forty-five (45) days before the annual Department Convention. Triplicate copies of proposed Resolution pertaining to the Constitution shall be in Department Headquarters not later than sixty (60) days prior to the opening of Department Convention for circulation to the Units.