

Proposal #1 – I. NATIONAL ORGANIZATION, #3, Page 31

Current Wording	Proposed Amendment	If Adopted, Will Read
<p>3. The National Judge Advocate of The American Legion shall be the Counsel General of the American Legion Auxiliary on all legal matters and matters pertaining to the National Constitution & Bylaws and shall perform such other duties as are usually incident to the office.</p> <p>All requests for information from and opinions by the Counsel General MUST come through the Department Secretary or Department President to the Executive Director, and thence referred to the Counsel General for his ruling and said ruling will be sent by the Executive Director to the Department Officer.</p>	<p>3. The National Judge Advocate of The American Legion shall be the Counsel General of the American Legion Auxiliary. on all legal matters and matters pertaining to the National Constitution & Bylaws and shall perform such other duties as are usually incident to the office.</p> <p>Counsel General works directly with NHQ leadership. All requests for information from and opinions by the Counsel General MUST come through the Department Secretary or Department President to the Executive Director, and thence referred to the Counsel General for his ruling and said ruling will be sent by the Executive Director to the Department Officer.</p>	<p>3. The National Judge Advocate of The American Legion shall be the Counsel General of the American Legion Auxiliary.</p> <p>Counsel General works directly with NHQ leadership. All requests for information from and opinions by the Counsel General MUST come through the Department Secretary or Department President to the Executive Director, and thence referred to the Counsel General for his ruling and said ruling will be sent by the Executive Director to the Department Officer.</p>

Proposed by: Constitution & Bylaws Committee

Rationale: Removing extra wording and keeping the rule general allows for greater flexibility in working with the TAL NJA. Address the inaccuracy that the TAL NJA is Counsel General on all legal matters. The national organization works with external legal professionals for issues pertaining to employment, intellectual property, nonprofit law, IN state statutes and more. No substantive changes.

Proposal #2 – I. NATIONAL ORGANIZATION, #4, Page 31

Current Wording	Proposed Amendment	If Adopted, Will Read
<p>4. The candidate(s) for National President, in consultation with National Headquarters staff, shall plan membership engagement, retention, and recruitment programs consistent with the goals of The American Legion. The plans shall be presented to the Departments no later than June 1 of the same year.</p>	<p>4. The candidate(s) for National President, in consultation with National Headquarters staff, shall plan membership engagement, retention, and recruitment programs consistent with the goals of The American Legion. The plans shall be presented to the Departments no later than June 1 of the same year. National membership programs and department membership goals shall be presented to departments no later than June 1 of the same year.</p>	<p>4. National membership programs and department membership goals shall be presented to departments no later than June 1 of the same year.</p>

Proposed by: Constitution & Bylaws Committee

Rationale: Omitting the first sentence as it does not match current practice. ALA Department Membership goals are not set in conjunction with The Legion. The Legion does not present membership goals to their departments until July 1.

Proposal #3 – I. NATIONAL ORGANIZATION, #5, Page 31

Current Wording	Proposed Amendment	If Adopted, Will Read
<p>5. The National Headquarters Executive Director shall make a National Headquarters organization chart available to the national officers and the NEC at the beginning of each administrative year.</p>	<p>5. The National Headquarters Executive Director shall make a National Headquarters organization chart will be available to the national officers and the NEC at the beginning of each administrative year.</p>	<p>National Headquarters organization chart will be available to the NEC at the beginning of each administrative year.</p>

Proposed by: Constitution & Bylaws Committee

Rationale: National Officers are part of the NEC, removed wording to address redundancy. The chart will not necessarily be from the Executive Director. It could be in an NEC meeting packet or an email from the National Headquarters. Removing specific positions ensures the rule can be executed regardless of staffing.

Proposal #4 – I. NATIONAL ORGANIZATION, #7, Page 31

Current Wording	Proposed Amendment	If Adopted, Will Read
<p>Add #7 7. Members of the American Legion Auxiliary may use and distribute names and contact information of its membership for official use only within the American Legion Auxiliary.</p>	<p>7. Members and entities of the American Legion Auxiliary may use and distribute names and contact information of its membership data from the American Legion Auxiliary Membership Information System (ALAMIS) for official use only within the American Legion Auxiliary. Unauthorized use, disclosure, or distribution is strictly prohibited.</p>	<p>7. Members and entities of the American Legion Auxiliary may use and distribute names and contact information of its membership data from the American Legion Auxiliary Membership Information System (ALAMIS) for official use only within the American Legion Auxiliary. Unauthorized use, disclosure, or distribution is strictly prohibited.</p>

Proposed by: Constitution & Bylaws Committee

Rationale: Reworded for clarification. No substantive changes.

Proposal #5 – Standing Rule II. NATIONAL CONVENTION, #2, Page 32

Current Wording	Proposed Amendment	If Adopted, Will Read
<p>2. Representation in the National Convention shall be by Departments. Each Department shall be entitled to seven (7) delegates; and one (1) additional delegate for each one thousand two hundred (1,200) members or major fraction thereof, whose current dues have been received by the National Treasurer thirty (30) days prior to the meeting of said National Convention, and to one (1) alternate for each delegate. The delegates and alternates shall be selected not less than two (2) weeks before the National Convention at Department Conventions or in any manner specified by any Department Constitution; provided that the Department hosting the National Convention shall be privileged to hold its Department Convention and select its delegates at the time and place designated by its Department of The American Legion. In addition to the above, the National</p>	<p>2. Representation in the National Convention shall be by Departments. Each Department shall be entitled to seven (7) delegates; and one (1) additional delegate for each one thousand two hundred (1,200) members or major fraction thereof, whose current dues have been received by the National Treasurer thirty (30) days prior to the meeting of said National Convention, and to one (1) alternate for each delegate. The delegates and alternates shall be selected not less than two (2) weeks before the National Convention at Department Conventions or in any manner specified by any Department Constitution; provided that the Department hosting the National Convention shall be privileged to hold its Department Convention and select its delegates at the time and place designated by its Department of The American Legion. In addition to the above, the National</p>	<p>2. Representation in the National Convention shall be by Departments. Each Department shall be entitled to seven (7) delegates; and one (1) additional delegate for each one thousand two hundred (1,200) members or major fraction thereof, whose current dues have been received by the National Treasurer thirty (30) days prior to the meeting of said National Convention, and to one (1) alternate for each delegate. The delegates and alternates shall be selected not less than two (2) weeks before the National Convention at Department Conventions or in any manner specified by any Department Constitution; provided that the Department hosting the National Convention shall be privileged to hold its Department Convention and select its delegates at the time and place designated by its Department of The American Legion.</p>

<p>President, National Vice President, National Division Vice Presidents, National Chaplain, National Historian, members of the National Executive Committee, and Past National Presidents in good standing with their respective Units shall be delegates-at-large with vote to be exercised with their respective Departments, except for the National President who shall vote as Chairman of the National Convention.</p> <p>The vote of any delegate absent and not represented by an alternate may be cast by the majority of the delegates present from the absent delegate's Department.</p> <p>As provided in the National Constitution, amendments to the National Convention delegate voting strength and the manner for casting votes shall be by action of the National Convention delegates.</p>	<p>President, National Vice President, National Division Vice Presidents, National Chaplain, National Historian, members of the National Executive Committee, and Past National Presidents in good standing with their respective Units shall be delegates-at-large with vote to be exercised with their respective Departments, except for the National President who shall vote as Chairman of the National Convention.</p> <p>The vote of any delegate absent and not represented by an alternate may be cast by the majority of the delegates present from the absent delegate's Department.</p> <p>As provided in the National Constitution, amendments to the National Convention delegate voting strength and the manner for casting votes shall be by action of the National Convention delegates.</p>	
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Proposed by: Constitution & Bylaws Committee

Rationale: Redundant. Established in Constitution Article VI National Convention.

Proposal #6 – Standing Rule II. NATIONAL CONVENTION, #3, Page 32

Current Wording	Proposed Amendment	If Adopted, Will Read
<p>3. As provided in the National Constitution, the National President shall be the Chairman of the National Convention. The National Vice President shall be the Vice Chairman of the National Convention; and in compliance with Constitutional requirements, may act in the place of the National President; the National Secretary shall be the Secretary of the National Convention, with the authority to appoint assistant secretaries with the approval of the National President.</p>	<p>Strike “As provided in the ... may act in place of the National President.”</p> <p>3. As provided in the National Constitution, the National President shall be the Chairman of the National Convention. The National Vice President shall be the Vice Chairman of the National Convention; and in compliance with Constitutional requirements, may act in the place of the National President; The National Secretary shall be the Secretary of the National Convention, with the authority to appoint assistant secretaries with the approval of the National President.</p>	<p>3. The National Secretary shall be the Secretary of the National Convention, with the authority to appoint assistant secretaries with the approval of the National President.</p>

Proposed by: Constitution & Bylaws Committee

Rationale: Redundant. Established in Constitution Article VI, Sect 3 of National Convention and Bylaws Article III, Section 3.

Proposal #7 – Standing Rule II. NATIONAL CONVENTION, 4c, Third Paragraph, Page 35

Current Wording	Proposed Amendment	If Adopted, Will Read
<p>4. c) The Pre-Convention Committee meeting on Constitution & Bylaws shall be open to all National Convention delegates and shall be held....There shall be no debate on the merits of the proposal based on clarifying questions from non-members of the committee.</p>	<p>4.c) The Pre-Convention Committee meeting on Constitution & Bylaws shall be open to all National Convention delegates members and shall be held....There shall be no debate on the merits of the proposal based on clarifying questions from non- members of the committee.</p>	<p>4.c) The Pre-Convention Committee meeting on Constitution & Bylaws shall be open to all members and shall be held....There shall be no debate on the merits of the proposal based on clarifying questions from non- members of the committee.</p>

Proposed by: Constitution & Bylaws Committee

Rationale: “delegates” is inaccurate as non-delegate members have access to Pre-Con Committee meetings including the in-person Constitution & Bylaws Pre-Con Committee Meeting.

Proposal #8 – Standing Rule II. NATIONAL CONVENTION, #5. e, Page 36

Current Wording	Proposed Amendment	If Adopted, Will Read
<p>e) The National President shall appoint the National Convention Host City Chairman who is charged with preparation of the preliminary plans and local arrangements for the National Convention in consultation with and with the approval of the National President. The National President shall also appoint such other National Convention committees as appropriate, including Distinguished Guests, Credentials, Rules, and Resolutions. The National President may also appoint a National Chairman and Vice Chairman of Pages, and Personal Pages.</p> <p>The National Convention Host City Chairman shall appoint the host committee, including a Vice Chairman, a Secretary, and members of all committees necessary for the functioning of the National Convention on the local level, with all such</p>	<p>e) 9. The National President shall appoint the National Convention Host City Chair who is charged with preparation of the preliminary plans and local arrangements for the National Convention in consultation with and with the approval of the National President.</p> <p>Convention in consultation with and with the approval of the National President. The National President shall also appoint such other National Convention committees as appropriate, including Distinguished Guests, Credentials, Rules, and Resolutions. The National President may also appoint a National Chair and Vice Chairman of Pages, and Personal Pages. The National Convention Host City Chairman shall appoint the host committee, including a Vice Chairman, a Secretary, and members of all committees necessary for the functioning of the National Convention on the local level,</p>	<p>9. The National President shall appoint the National Convention Host City Chair who is charged with preparation of the preliminary plans and local arrangements for the National Convention in consultation with and with the approval of the National President.</p> <p>The National President may also appoint a National Chair and Vice Chairman of Pages, and Personal Pages. The National Convention Host City Chairman shall appoint the host committee, including a Vice Chairman, a Secretary, and members of all committees necessary for the functioning of the National Convention on the local level, with all such appointments to be approved by the National President.</p>

<p>appointments to be approved by the National President.</p>	<p>with all such appointments to be approved by the National President.</p> <p>The National Convention Host City Chairman shall appoint the host committee, including a Vice Chairman, a Secretary, and members of all committees necessary for the functioning of the National Convention on the local level, with all such appointments to be approved by the National President.</p>	
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Proposed by: Constitution & Bylaws Committee

Rationale: Reformatting for clarity and flow. Combining all Convention Host City info together in first paragraph. Convention appointments(Rules, Resolutions, Credentials) covered in Standing Rule 11. National Convention, #4

Proposal #9 – Standing Rule III. NATIONAL CONFERENCES FOR DEPARTMENT LEADERS, #1 and #2, Page 37

Current Wording	Proposed Amendment	If Adopted, Will Read
<p>1. A Department Leadership National Conference shall be held annually. Necessary expenses incurred for attendance may be paid from the national treasury when authorized by the national budget or authorized by the National President and confirmed by the National Executive Committee.</p> <p>2. The National Organization may present other national trainings, meetings, or conferences for specified department leaders from time to time such as the Department Secretary Organizational Effectiveness Training. Necessary expenses incurred for attendance may be paid from the national treasury when authorized by the national budget or authorized by the National President and confirmed by the National Executive Committee.</p>	<p>1. A Department Leadership National Conference shall be held annually. Necessary expenses incurred for attendance may be paid from the national treasury when authorized by the national budget or authorized by the National President and confirmed by the National Executive Committee. Necessary expenses incurred for attendance may be paid from national funds as determined by the National Executive Committee.</p> <p>2. The National Organization may present other national trainings, meetings, or conferences for specified department leaders from time to time such as the Department Secretary Organizational Effectiveness Training. Necessary expenses incurred for attendance may be paid from the national treasury when authorized by the national budget or authorized by the National President and confirmed by the National Executive Committee.</p>	<p>1. A Department Leadership National Conference shall be held annually. Necessary expenses incurred for attendance may be paid from national funds as determined by the National Executive Committee.</p>

Proposed by: Constitution & Bylaws Committee

Rationale: #1 – the rule being established is the annual requirement of a Department Leadership National Conference. The processing of financial impacts is established in the budgeting process and the authority of the National Executive Committee and the National Finance Committee. Capturing accounting processes here is out of scope, redundant and unnecessary.

Rationale: #2 – There is no rule defined here, only statement of possible actions regarding possible expenses of theoretical additional training events. Handling of expenses is captured in the budget process and the scope of the National Executive Committee and the National Finance Committee.

Proposal #10 – Standing Rule IV. DUTIES OF NATIONAL OFFICERS, Page 37

Current Wording	Proposed Amendment	If Adopted, Will Read
<p><u>National President, Page 37</u> 1. The National President shall serve as chairman of the National Executive Committee and chairman of the National Convention. 2. The National President may appoint an Advisory Committee of three (3) to five (5) members as approved by the National Executive Committee. 3. The National President’s pin adopted in 1930 shall be the official pin of the office of National President to be passed down from the outgoing national president to the incoming national president. The Past National President’s pin, available from Legion Emblem Sales, shall be available for purchase only by Past National Presidents.</p>	<p><u>National President, Page 37</u> 3. 1. The National President’s pin adopted in 1930 shall be the official pin of the office of National President to be passed down from the outgoing national president to the incoming national president. The Past National President’s pin, available from Legion Emblem Sales, shall be available for purchase only by Past National Presidents. 1. The National President shall serve as chairman of the National Executive Committee and chairman of the National Convention. (Deleted. It is in the Bylaws) 2. The National President may appoint an Advisory Committee of three (3) to five (5) members as approved by the National Executive Committee. (Moved to Standing Rule on Committees, scroll to the end of this amendment) 2. The National President shall authorize</p>	<p><u>National President, Page 37</u> 1. The National President’s pin adopted in 1930 shall be the official pin of the office of National President to be passed down from the outgoing national president to the incoming national president. The Past National President’s pin, available from Legion Emblem Sales, shall be available for purchase only by Past National Presidents. 2. The National President shall authorize attendees to budgeted events.</p>

<p><u>National Vice President, Page 38</u></p> <p>1. The National President may authorize the National Vice President to attend meetings on behalf of the National President and attend such special meetings or official Department visits as the National President may authorize.</p> <p>2. When the National President so directs, the National Vice President shall serve in an advisory capacity to a specific National Chairman to develop a program.</p>	<p>attendees to budgeted events. <i>(Originally #2 under Natl Vice Pres. Reworded and moved here to Natl Pres.)</i></p> <p><u>National Vice President, Page 38</u></p> <p>1. The National President may authorize the National Vice President to attend meetings on behalf of the National President and attend such special meetings or official Department visits as the National President may authorize.</p> <p>2. The National President shall authorize attendees to budgeted events. <i>(Reworded and becomes #2 under Natl Pres)</i></p> <p>2. When the National President so directs, the National Vice President shall serve in an advisory capacity to a specific National Chairman to develop a program.</p> <p>1. The National Vice President shall assist the national president by attending events at the national president's request and advising national committee chairs for specific purposes as directed by the president.</p>	<p><u>National Vice President, Page 38</u></p> <p>1. The National Vice President shall assist the national president by attending events at the national president's request and advising national committee chairs for specific purposes as directed by the president.</p>
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<p><u>National Division Vice Presidents, Page 38</u></p> <p>2. While National Division Vice Presidents may contact Department Presidents regarding their tentative date for an official visit, the request for the official visits of the National Division Vice President must be sent by the Department President to the National President and the National Division Vice President shall not complete plans for any visit until an official authorization from the National President is received.</p> <p>5. National Division Vice Presidents shall arrange for and conduct their Division Caucuses at the National Convention in accordance with these Standing Rules.</p>	<p><i>(Reworded and becomes #1 under Natl Vice Pres)</i></p> <p><u>National Division Vice Presidents, Page 38</u></p> <p>2. While National Division Vice Presidents may contact Department Presidents regarding their tentative date for an official visit, the request for the official visits of the National Division Vice President must be sent by the Department. President to the National President and The National Division Vice President shall not complete plans for any visit until an official authorization from the National President is received.</p> <p>5. National Division Vice Presidents shall arrange for and conduct their Division Caucuses at the National Convention. in accordance with these Standing Rules.</p>	<p><u>National Division Vice Presidents, Page 38</u></p> <p>2. While National Division Vice Presidents may contact Department Presidents regarding their tentative date for an official visit, the request for the official visits of the National Division Vice President must be sent by the Department. The National Division Vice President shall not complete plans for any visit until an official authorization from the National President is received.</p> <p>5. National Division Vice Presidents shall arrange for and conduct their Division Caucuses at the National Convention.</p>
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Proposed by: Constitution & Bylaws Committee

Rationale: National Presidents section: strike #1, already listed in Bylaws Article III, Section 1. Strike #2 from National President duties, but move “3-5 committee members” and combine SR VII, Committee, Advisory Committee. National Vice President Section: #1 is really an authority of the National President. Reworded and moved under National President section. Old #2 is reworded and becomes #1. National Division Vice Presidents section: #2 and #5 both reworded for clarification and to match current practice.

Proposal #11 – Standing Rule V. NATIONAL EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE, #1, Page 40

Current Wording	Proposed Amendment	If Adopted, Will Read
1. The fiduciary responsibility of the National Executive Committee, as directors of the National Organization, is as provided in the National Bylaws.	1. The fiduciary responsibility of the National Executive Committee, as directors of the National Organization, is as provided in the National Bylaws.	

Proposed by: Constitution & Bylaws Committee

Rationale: Bylaws Article IV contain the responsibilities of the board. Unnecessary to reference in the Standing Rules.

Proposal #12 – Standing Rule X, Departments, #2, Page 54

Current Wording	Proposed Amendment	If Adopted, Will Read
2. Governance issues within a Department not resolved by the Department Executive Committee may be appealed to the National Executive Committee. The National Executive Committee has the authority to accept or reject appeals for consideration.	2. Governance issues within a Department not resolved by the Department Executive Committee may be appealed to the National Executive Committee. The National Executive Committee has the authority to accept or reject appeals for consideration.	

Proposed by: Constitution & Bylaws Committee

Rationale: Standing Rule X, Departments, #2 has been rewritten and moved to Standing Rule V. National Executive Committee, new number 8, which captures NEC authority to receive appeals and complaints as stated in Bylaw 11 Discipline.

Proposal #13, V. National Executive Committee, #4, new #8, Page 40

Current Wording	Proposed Amendment	If Adopted, Will Read
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<p>4. The National Executive Committee shall determine the membership year for the organization.</p> <p><u>Standing Rules X.2 (current)</u> “Governance Issues within a Department not resolved by the DEC may be appealed to the NEC. The NEC has the authority to accept or reject appeals for consideration.”</p>	<p>4. The National Executive Committee shall determine the membership year for the organization. The Membership Year is Jan 1 – Dec 31</p> <p><i>(New 8 – appeals - authority taken from SR X.2)</i></p> <p>8. The National Executive Committee has the authority to accept or reject appeals for consideration under the following categories: <u>Disciplinary Action Imposed on Member:</u> Members disciplined by a Unit have the right to appeal to the Department Executive Committee (DEC). The NEC may consider an appeal from a member under the following circumstances:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. The DEC denied or prevented the member from accessing the established appeals process, including the member’s submission to the DEC of a written statement outlining the alleged improper disciplinary action; or 	<p>4. The National Executive Committee shall determine the membership year for the organization. The Membership Year is Jan 1 – Dec 31.</p> <p>8. The National Executive Committee has the authority to accept or reject appeals for consideration under the following categories: <u>Disciplinary Action Imposed on Member:</u> Members disciplined by a Unit have the right to appeal to the Department Executive Committee (DEC). The NEC may consider an appeal from a member under the following circumstances:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. The DEC denied or prevented the member from accessing the established appeals process, including the member’s submission to the DEC of a written statement outlining the alleged improper disciplinary action; or
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	<p>2. The DEC fails to identify and address a violations of members rights or principles of fundamental fairness including adequate notice and opportunity to be heard; or</p> <p>3. The DEC imposes disciplinary action on a member in violation of governing documents.</p> <p><u>Disciplinary Action Imposed on Unit: units disciplined by a department have the right to appeal to the NEC. The NEC may consider appeals from units when:</u></p> <p>1. The disciplinary action imposed by the department violated the principles of fundamental fairness including adequate notice and opportunity to be heard; or</p> <p>2. The disciplinary action imposed by the department violated national governing documents; or</p> <p>3. The cancellation or revocation of a unit charter was executed in violation of national governing documents.</p>	<p>2. The DEC fails to identify and address a violations of members rights or principles of fundamental fairness including adequate notice and opportunity to be heard; or</p> <p>3. The DEC imposes disciplinary action on a member in violation of governing documents.</p> <p><u>Disciplinary Action Imposed on Unit: units disciplined by a department have the right to appeal to the NEC. The NEC may consider appeals from units when:</u></p> <p>1. The disciplinary action imposed by the department violated the principles of fundamental fairness including adequate notice and opportunity to be heard; or</p> <p>2. The disciplinary action imposed by the department violated national governing documents; or</p> <p>3. The cancellation or revocation of a unit charter was executed in violation of national governing documents.</p>
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<p>8. The National Executive Committee may establish procedural rules regarding the suspension, cancellation, or revocation of Unit charters, with full power to revise or amend such rules. The general process shall be as provided in the section on Charters in these Standing Rules.</p>	<p><i>(New 9 – complaints - authority taken from SR X.2)</i></p> <p>9. The NEC has the authority to consider complaints regarding the failure of department leadership to adhere to the department’s governing documents when:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Three (3) or more units file the same complaint; or 2. Three (3) or more members of the DEC file the same complaint. <p>10. 10. The National Executive Committee may establish procedural rules regarding the suspension, cancellation, or revocation of Unit charters, with full power to revise or amend such rules. The general process shall be as provided in the section on Charters in these Standing Rules.</p> <p><i>New #11 is originally from SR XII Charters.</i></p> <p>11. A Unit whose charter has been canceled without its consent may appeal the Department’s action to the National</p>	<p>9. The NEC has the authority to consider complaints regarding the failure of department leadership to adhere to the department’s governing documents when:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Three (3) or more units file the same complaint; or 2. Three (3) or more members of the DEC file the same complaint. <p>10. The National Executive Committee may establish procedural rules regarding the suspension, cancellation, or revocation of Unit charters, with full power to revise or amend such rules.</p> <p>11. A Unit whose charter has been canceled without its consent may appeal the Department’s action to the National</p>
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	<p>Executive Committee within sixty (60) days of receipt of notice of the Department's action.</p> <p>a) The Unit shall provide by email a written appeal to the National Secretary, the Department President, and the Department Secretary that includes:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • a reason why the NEC should grant the appeal • a chronology of events • supporting documentation in chronological order with original timestamps • a copy of the Unit's governing documents. <p>b) The National Secretary shall notify the National President of the appeal.</p> <p>c) The Department shall provide by email to the National Secretary within two (2) weeks of receipt of the Unit's appeal:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • a written summary justifying the cancellation of the Unit's charter • a copy of all records and actions with original timestamps regarding the probation of the Unit or cancellation of the Unit's charter • a chronology of events • a copy of the Department's governing 	<p>Executive Committee within sixty (60) days of receipt of notice of the Department's action.</p> <p>a) The Unit shall provide by email a written appeal to the National Secretary, the Department President, and the Department Secretary that includes:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • a reason why the NEC should grant the appeal • a chronology of events • supporting documentation in chronological order with original timestamps • a copy of the Unit's governing documents. <p>b) The National Secretary shall notify the National President of the appeal.</p> <p>c) The Department shall provide by email to the National Secretary within two (2) weeks of receipt of the Unit's appeal:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • a written summary justifying the cancellation of the Unit's charter • a copy of all records and actions with original timestamps regarding the probation of the Unit or cancellation of the Unit's charter • a chronology of events • a copy of the Department's governing
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<p>8. “The National Executive Committee may establish procedural rules regarding the suspension, cancellation or revocation of Unit charters....”</p> <p>9. “As provided in the American Legion Auxiliary National Bylaws and enacted by the National Convention....”</p>	<p>documents. d) The National President, as presiding officer of the National Executive Committee, shall independently appoint a special subcommittee of three (3) to five (5) members of the National Executive Committee to review the appeal. Unless there is a regularly scheduled meeting, the National President shall call a special meeting of the National Executive Committee to be held within thirty (30) days of the formation of the special subcommittee, informing the Unit and Department of the meeting. e) The special subcommittee shall make written findings of facts and recommendations to the National Executive Committee. 6. The National Secretary shall inform both the Unit and the Department of the decision of the National Executive Committee, whose decision shall be final.</p> <p>8. 10. “The National Executive Committee may establish procedural rules regarding the suspension, cancellation or revocation of Unit charters....”</p> <p>9. 12. “As provided in the American Legion Auxiliary National Bylaws and enacted by the National Convention....”</p>	<p>documents. d) The National President, as presiding officer of the National Executive Committee, shall independently appoint a special subcommittee of three (3) to five (5) members of the National Executive Committee to review the appeal. Unless there is a regularly scheduled meeting, the National President shall call a special meeting of the National Executive Committee to be held within thirty (30) days of the formation of the special subcommittee, informing the Unit and Department of the meeting. e) The special subcommittee shall make written findings of facts and recommendations to the National Executive Committee. 6. The National Secretary shall inform both the Unit and the Department of the decision of the National Executive Committee, whose decision shall be final.</p> <p>10. “The National Executive Committee may establish procedural rules regarding the suspension, cancellation or revocation of Unit charters....”</p> <p>12. “As provided in the American Legion Auxiliary National Bylaws and enacted by the National Convention....”</p>
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<p>10. “The National Executive Committee may authorize and budget funds for the candidate(s) for national president to attend meetings with National Headquarters staff”</p> <p>11. “National Headquarters will include Alternate National Executive Committee members on all communications normally distributed to the National Executive Committee....”</p> <p>.</p>	<p>10. 13. “The National Executive Committee may authorize and budget funds for the candidate(s) for national president to attend meetings with National Headquarters staff”</p> <p>11. 14. “National Headquarters will include Alternate National Executive Committee members on all communications normally distributed to the National Executive Committee....”</p>	<p>13. “The National Executive Committee may authorize and budget funds for the candidate(s) for national president to attend meetings with National Headquarters staff”</p> <p>14. “National Headquarters will include Alternate National Executive Committee members on all communications normally distributed to the National Executive Committee....”</p>
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Proposed by: National Constitution & Bylaws Committee

Rationale: New #8 and new #9 replaces old SR X. 2 on “governance actions not resolved.” This wording is clear and more specific about what situations would meet the criteria for an NEC appeal or complaint. New #11 comes verbatim from SR XII. Charters. moved to this section to keep process information in the same place as the authority.



THE AMERICAN LEGION
Veterans Strengthening America

OFFICE OF THE NATIONAL JUDGE ADVOCATE

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February 23, 2026

Ben Hendricks, Executive Director
Tamara Shumate, Deputy Executive Director
American Legion Auxiliary National Headquarters
3450 Founders Road
Indianapolis, IN 46268

Dear Tamara/Ben:

Wanted to briefly send you a letter praising the attempt in Proposal 13 to create an external triggering mechanism for complaints to the National Executive Committee over "Governance Issues." This has been much needed, and I have discussed it in every meeting we have held over the last 4 (glorious) years.

My concern with the way Rule X was drafted seemed loose, susceptible to multiple interpretations and did nothing to limit appeals on any number of "governance issues." In essence, my belief has always been that Rule X was so vague that literally anything could be appealed to the National Executive Committee. My concern was never what happened with those appeals, but rather that the discretionary nature of which appeals would be heard and which would be quietly shelved could create litigation that would jeopardize Auxiliary resources, exactly the opposite of what was intended by Rule X.

The proposed Amendment would first limit what appeals could be brought before the NEC; incorrect disciplinary actions against a member, discipline imposed on a Unit, and Department Actions. Crucially for me, the last includes a triggering mechanism where it requires three (3) or more units to file the same complaint or three (3) or more members of the Department Executive Committee call for an investigation of some governance action (or inaction.)

This is key because it is no longer the NEC picking and choosing which appeals to take up, and institutes an outside benchmark that triggers such an investigation.

Again, thank you for taking this first step in limiting our litigation exposure.

Best regards,

Mark C. Seavey, J.D.
National Judge Advocate

Proposal #14 – V. NATIONAL EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE, #5, Page 40

Current Wording	Proposed Amendment	If Adopted, Will Read
<p>5. Charter cancellations may be presented at any National Executive Committee meeting. Cancellations approved by the National Executive Committee shall become effective immediately.</p>	<p>5. Charter cancellations may be presented at any National Executive Committee meeting. Charter cancellation requests will only be considered at regular National Executive Committee meetings. Cancellations requests approved by the National Executive Committee shall become effective immediately.</p>	<p>5. Charter cancellation requests will only be considered at regular National Executive Committee meetings. Cancellation requests approved by the National Executive Committee shall become effective immediately.</p>

Proposed by: Constitution & Bylaws Committee

Rationale: Clarifying that charter cancellation requests can only be handled at regular NEC meetings (not special NEC meetings) and further clarifying that a unit charter is not cancelled until approved by NEC.

Proposal #15 – Standing Rule V. NATIONAL EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE, #7, Page 40

Current Wording	Proposed Amendment	If Adopted, Will Read
<p>7. In the event the National Secretary or National Treasurer becomes incapacitated or is otherwise unable to discharge the duties of the office, the National Executive Committee may declare the position vacant only if the position is held by a person who is not an employee of National Headquarters.</p> <p>When the position is held by a person who is an employee of National Headquarters, the declaration of vacancy must be in accord with federal and state employment law and for good cause on the motion of the National President.</p>	<p>7. In the event the National Secretary or National Treasurer becomes incapacitated or is otherwise unable to discharge the duties of the office, the National Executive Committee may declare the position vacant. only if the position is held by a person who is not an employee of National Headquarters.</p> <p>When the position is held by a person who is an employee of National Headquarters, the declaration of vacancy must be in accord with federal and state employment law and for good cause on the motion of the National President.</p>	<p>7. In the event the National Secretary or National Treasurer becomes incapacitated or is otherwise unable to discharge the duties of the office, the National Executive Committee may declare the position vacant.</p>

Proposed by: Constitution & Bylaws Committee

Rationale: Offices of National Secretary and National Treasurer was purposely separated from the NHQ employee position. This paragraph is no longer needed.

Proposal #16 – Standing Rule V. NATIONAL EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE, #8, Page 40

Current Wording	Proposed Amendment	If Adopted, Will Read
<p>8. The National Executive Committee may establish procedural rules regarding the suspension, cancellation, or revocation of Unit charters, with full power to revise or amend such rules. The general process shall be as provided in the section on Charters in these Standing Rules.</p>	<p>8. The National Executive Committee may establish procedural rules regarding the suspension, cancellation, or revocation of Unit charters, with full power to revise or amend such rules. The general process shall be as provided in the section on Charters in these Standing Rules.</p>	

Proposed by: Constitution & Bylaws Committee

Rationale: Section 8 is redundant. Authority established in Bylaws Article XII Charter Cancellations and in Standing Rule XII Charter Cancellations

Proposal #17 – Standing Rule V. NATIONAL EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE, #9, Page 40

Current Wording	Proposed Amendment	If Adopted, Will Read
<p>9. As provided in the American Legion Auxiliary National Bylaws and enacted by the National Convention, there shall be a national intermediate body, the Executive Committee to the National Executive Committee, which shall be subordinate to the National Executive Committee.</p>	<p>9. As provided in the American Legion Auxiliary National Bylaws and enacted by the National Convention, there shall be a national intermediate body, the Executive Committee to the National Executive Committee, which shall be subordinate to the National Executive Committee.</p>	

Proposed by: Constitution & Bylaws Committee

Rationale: Section 9 is redundant. Authority established in Bylaws Article VIII Department Organization

Proposal #18 – Standing Rule V. NATIONAL EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE, #10, Page 41

Current Wording	Proposed Amendment	If Adopted, Will Read
<p>10. The National Executive Committee may authorize and budget funds for the candidate(s) for national president to attend meetings with National Headquarters staff or The American Legion as necessary for planning the upcoming administrative year unless such meetings may be conducted remotely.</p>	<p>10. The National Executive Committee may authorize and budget funds for the candidate(s) for national president to attend meetings with National Headquarters staff or The American Legion as necessary for planning the upcoming administrative year unless such meetings may be conducted remotely.</p>	

Proposed by: Constitution & Bylaws Committee

Rationale: Section 10 is redundant. Authority established in Bylaws Article IV, National Executive Committee, Section 6, #4 on composition of the Executive Committee to the NEC.

Proposal #19 – Standing Rule V. NATIONAL EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE, #11, Page 41

Current Wording	Proposed Amendment	If Adopted, Will Read
<p>11. National Headquarters will include Alternate National Executive Committee members on all communications normally distributed to the National Executive Committee to better prepare the Alternate to act in the absence of the National Executive Committee member.</p>	<p>11. National Headquarters will include Alternate National Executive Committee members on all communications pertaining to regularly scheduled NEC meetings. normally distributed to the National Executive Committee to better prepare the Alternate to act in the absence of the National Executive Committee member.</p>	<p>11. National Headquarters will include Alternate National Executive Committee members on all communications pertaining to regularly scheduled NEC meetings.</p>

Proposed by: Constitution & Bylaws Committee

Rationale: added “pertaining to regularly scheduled NEC Meetings” to clarify that Alt NECs do not receive confidential materials pertaining to Special NEC meetings held in Executive Session.

Proposal #20 – Standing Rule VII, Committees, 2-6, Pages 41-42

Current Wording	Proposed Amendment	If Adopted, Will Read
<p>1. As provided in the National Bylaws, in addition to the core National Standing Committees – Veterans Affairs & Rehabilitation, Children & Youth, Americanism, National Security, Membership, Constitution & Bylaws, Finance, and Risk & Compliance – there shall be the following national committees: Auxiliary Emergency Fund, Community Service, Education, American Legion Auxiliary Girls Nation, Junior Activities, Leadership, Legislative, Poppy, and Public Relations. The overall purpose of each national committee is as specified in this section.</p> <p>2. As provided in the National Bylaws, the chairmen and committee members of all national committees shall be appointed by the National President and confirmed by the National Executive Committee.</p> <p>3. As provided in the National Bylaws, when a vacancy occurs on a committee, the National President shall</p>	<p>1. As provided in the National Bylaws, in addition to the core National Standing Committees – Veterans Affairs & Rehabilitation, Children & Youth, Americanism, National Security, Membership, Constitution & Bylaws, Finance, and Risk & Compliance – there shall be the following national committees: Auxiliary Emergency Fund, Community Service, Education, American Legion Auxiliary Girls Nation, Junior Activities, Leadership, Legislative, Poppy, and Public Relations. The overall purpose of each national committee is as specified in this section.</p> <p>2. As provided in the National Bylaws, the chairmen and committee members of all national committees shall be appointed by the National President and confirmed by the National Executive Committee.</p> <p>3. As provided in the National Bylaws, when a vacancy occurs on a</p>	<p>1. As provided in the National Bylaws, in addition to the core National Standing Committees – Veterans Affairs & Rehabilitation, Children & Youth, Americanism, National Security, Membership, Constitution & Bylaws, Finance, and Risk & Compliance – there shall be the following national committees: Auxiliary Emergency Fund, Community Service, Education, American Legion Auxiliary Girls Nation, Junior Activities, Leadership, Legislative, Poppy, and Public Relations. The overall purpose of each national committee is as specified in this section.</p>

<p>appoint a member to serve the unexpired term subject to confirmation by the National Executive Committee. Chairmen and committee members serve until their successors are appointed.</p> <p>4. As provided in the National Bylaws, the National President shall be considered an ex-officio member, additionally, of all committees.</p> <p>5. As provided in the National Bylaws, the National President in consultation with National Headquarters staff may appoint other special or ad hoc committees necessary for the good of the organization during an administrative year. Special Committees shall be appointed subject to confirmation and ratification by the National Executive Committee. Limited specific purpose ad hoc committees may be appointed at the discretion of the National President subject to National Executive Committee confirmation.</p> <p>6. The composition of each National Standing Committee and each National Committee and the number of members and their terms shall be as described in this section, and any</p>	<p>committee, the National President shall appoint a member to serve the unexpired term subject to confirmation by the National Executive Committee. Chairmen and committee members serve until their successors are appointed.</p> <p>4. As provided in the National Bylaws, the National President shall be considered an ex-officio member, additionally, of all committees.</p> <p>5. As provided in the National Bylaws, the National President in consultation with National Headquarters staff may appoint other special or ad hoc committees necessary for the good of the organization during an administrative year. Special Committees shall be appointed subject to confirmation and ratification by the National Executive Committee. Limited specific purpose ad hoc committees may be appointed at the discretion of the National President subject to National Executive Committee confirmation.</p> <p>6. The composition of each National Standing Committee and each National Committee and the number of members and their terms shall be as</p>	
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amendments thereto shall be by action of the National Convention delegates.	described in this section, and any amendments thereto shall be by action of the National Convention delegates.	
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Proposed by: Constitution & Bylaws Committee

Rationale: Omit 2-6 as the authority is established in the Bylaws Article III, Duties of Officers; and Article VI, Committees.

Proposal #21 – Standing Rule IX, Subsidiary Organizations, 1, Pages 50, 52, 53

Current Wording	Proposed Amendment	If Adopted, Will Read
<p>National Subsidiary Organizations (pg 50, #1, second paragraph) Subsidiary organizations are subordinate to the National Organization and shall comply with the following legally binding rules that ensure the constant and continuous control of the trademarks and trade names of the National Organization.</p> <p>Department Subsidiary Organizations (pg 52, #1, second paragraph) Subsidiary organizations are subordinate to the Department and shall comply with the following legally binding rules that ensure the constant and continuous control of the trademarks and trade names of the American Legion Auxiliary.</p> <p>Unit Subsidiary Organizations (pg 53,#1, second paragraph) Subsidiary organizations are subordinate to the Unit and shall comply with the following legally binding rules that ensure the constant and continuous control of the trademarks and trade names of the American Legion Auxiliary.</p>	<p>National Subsidiary Organizations, #1 Subsidiary organizations are subordinate to the National Organization and shall comply with the following legally binding rules that ensure the constant and continuous control of the trademarks and trade names of the National Organization.</p> <p>Department Subsidiary Organizations, #1 Subsidiary organizations are subordinate to the Department and shall comply with the following legally binding rules that ensure the constant and continuous control of the trademarks and trade names of the American Legion Auxiliary.</p> <p>Unit Subsidiary Organizations,#1 Subsidiary organizations are subordinate to the Unit and shall comply with the following legally binding rules that ensure the constant and continuous control of the trademarks and trade names of the American Legion Auxiliary.</p>	<p>National Subsidiary Organizations (pg 50, #1, second paragraph) Subsidiary organizations are subordinate to the National Organization and shall comply with the following rules that ensure the constant and continuous control of the trademarks and trade names of the National Organization.</p> <p>Department Subsidiary Organizations (pg 52, #1, second paragraph) Subsidiary organizations are subordinate to the Department and shall comply with the following rules that ensure the constant and continuous control of the trademarks and trade names of the American Legion Auxiliary.</p> <p>Unit Subsidiary Organizations (pg 53,#1, second paragraph) Subsidiary organizations are subordinate to the Unit and shall comply with the following rules that ensure the constant and continuous control of the trademarks and trade names of the American Legion Auxiliary.</p>

Proposed by: Constitution & Bylaws Committee

Rationale: Nonprofit standing rules and other policies are generally not as strictly contractual or legally binding as the organization's formal bylaws. While bylaws are legally binding governing documents required for incorporation and upheld by courts, standing rules or policies serve as operational guidelines for daily, administrative, or parliamentary procedures.

Proposal #22 – Standing Rule X, Departments, #1 Page 54

Current Wording	Proposed Amendment	If Adopted, Will Read
<p>1. Departments of the American Legion Auxiliary are separate entities that operate independently as affiliates of the American Legion Auxiliary National Organization. Departments shall be governed by their own Department Constitution and/or Bylaws, rules and policies, which shall not conflict with the National Constitution & Bylaws, National Standing Rules, National rules and policies. Departments may refer to the American Legion Auxiliary Department Operations Guide, the American Legion Auxiliary Girls State Program and Operations Guide, Manual of Ceremonies, and other publications of the National Organization for guidance in the conduct of their programs and the administration of the Department activities.</p>	<p>Omit. Strike all of #1 1. Departments of the American Legion Auxiliary are separate entities that operate independently as affiliates of the American Legion Auxiliary National Organization. Departments shall be governed by their own Department Constitution and/or Bylaws, rules and policies, which shall not conflict with the National Constitution & Bylaws, National Standing Rules, National rules and policies. Departments may refer to the American Legion Auxiliary Department Operations Guide, the American Legion Auxiliary Girls State Program and Operations Guide, Manual of Ceremonies, and other publications of the National Organization for guidance in the conduct of their programs and the administration of the Department activities.</p>	

Proposed by: Constitution & Bylaws Committee

Rationale: First half is redundant. Stated in Bylaws Article VIII. Departments. The second half is not a rule, it is a list of potential resources. Standing rules should contain absolutes, or “rules” not suggested resources.

Proposal #23 – Standing Rule X, Departments, #4, Page 54

Current Wording	Proposed Amendment	If Adopted, Will Read
<p>4. The Unit has the responsibility for the discipline of its members. A member disciplined by said member’s Unit may appeal the Unit’s disciplinary action in writing to the Department Executive Committee. The Department Executive Committee shall review the appeal and respond as it deems appropriate. The action of the Department Executive Committee is final. Disciplinary actions against members, including membership suspensions, are not appealable to the National Organization. All discipline must be imposed in accordance with the principle of fundamental fairness, which includes notice and an opportunity to be heard. A Department may discipline a Unit for failure to discipline a member.</p>	<p>4. The Unit has the responsibility for the discipline of its members. A member disciplined by said member’s Unit may appeal the Unit’s disciplinary action in writing to the Department Executive Committee. The Department Executive Committee shall review the appeal and respond as it deems appropriate. The action of the Department Executive Committee is final. Disciplinary actions against members, including membership suspensions, are not appealable to the National Organization. All discipline must be imposed in accordance with the principle of fundamental fairness, which includes notice and an opportunity to be heard. A Department may discipline a Unit for failure to discipline a member.</p>	<p>4. A Department may discipline a Unit for failure to discipline a member.</p>

Proposed by: Constitution & Bylaws Committee

Rationale: Redundant. Bylaws XI. Discipline, Section 3, e

Proposal #24 – Standing Rule X, Departments, #5 Page 54

Current Wording	Proposed Amendment	If Adopted, Will Read
<p>5. It shall be the responsibility of the Department Executive Committee as directors of the Department organization to determine all questions affecting the election, eligibility, conduct, and capacity of the Department’s officers, directors, and Department Executive Committee members. Such matters shall be determined according to fundamental fairness, which includes notice and an opportunity to be heard, and shall be specified in the Department’s governing documents, to include:</p> <p>a) questions shall be submitted in writing to the Department Executive Committee;</p> <p>b) the Department Executive Committee may designate, appoint, and authorize a subcommittee to hear, try, and make written findings of fact and recommendations regarding such matters;</p> <p>c) the Department Executive Committee shall provide due and proper notice of any</p>	<p>5. It shall be the responsibility of the Department Executive Committee as directors of the Department organization to determine all questions affecting the election, eligibility, conduct, and capacity of the Department’s officers, directors, and Department Executive Committee members. Such matters shall be determined according to fundamental fairness, which includes notice and an opportunity to be heard, and shall be specified in the Department’s governing documents, to include:</p> <p>a) questions shall be submitted in writing to the Department Executive Committee;</p> <p>b) the Department Executive Committee may designate, appoint, and authorize a subcommittee to hear, try, and make written findings of fact and recommendations regarding such matters;</p> <p>e) the Department Executive Committee shall provide due and proper notice of any</p>	<p>5. It shall be the responsibility of the Department Executive Committee as directors of the Department organization to determine all questions affecting the election, conduct, and capacity of the Department’s officers, directors, and Department Executive Committee members. Such matters shall be determined according to fundamental fairness, which includes notice and an opportunity to be heard.</p>

<p>hearing and trial;</p> <p>d) the findings of fact and recommendations of said matters shall be presented to the Department Executive Committee for its approval, rejection, or final action.</p>	<p>hearing and trial;</p> <p>d) the findings of fact and recommendations of said matters shall be presented to the Department Executive Committee for its approval, rejection, or final action.</p>	
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Proposed by: Constitution & Bylaws Committee

Rationale: Removing language that involves overreach by the national organization. While national can dictate that a department's governing documents are not in conflict with national governing documents it is overreach to dictate to a department what must be included in its governing documents. Removing the word eligibility because that is determined at the unit level during point of join.

Proposal #25 – Standing Rule X, Departments, #10, Page 55

Current Wording	Proposed Amendment	If Adopted, Will Read
<p>10. National Headquarters shall notify Departments of all resolutions and amendments to the American Legion Auxiliary governing documents adopted at National Executive Committee meetings and National Convention.</p>	<p>10. National Headquarters National Executive Committee members shall notify their Departments of all resolutions and amendments to the American Legion Auxiliary National governing documents adopted at National Executive Committee meetings and National Convention.</p>	<p>10. National Executive Committee members shall notify their Departments of all resolutions and amendments to the American Legion Auxiliary National governing documents adopted at National Executive Committee meetings and National Convention.</p>

Proposed by: Constitution & Bylaws Committee

Rationale: National Headquarters supplies updated governing documents to all members via the national website as well as educational resources regarding governing document changes. It is the responsibility of the board members/NEC department representatives to share the information directly with their specific departments.

Proposal #26 – Standing Rule XI, Units, #1, Page 55

Current Wording	Proposed Amendment	If Adopted, Will Read
<p>1. Units of the American Legion Auxiliary are separate entities that operate independently as affiliates of the American Legion Auxiliary National Organization. Units shall be governed by their own Unit Constitution and/or Bylaws which shall not conflict with the National Constitution & Bylaws, National Standing Rules, National rules and policies, Department Constitution and Bylaws, or Department rules and policies. Units may refer to the Unit Guide Book, the Manual of Ceremonies and other publications of the National and Department organizations for guidance in the conduct of their programs and the administration of Unit activities.</p>	<p>1. Units of the American Legion Auxiliary are separate entities that operate independently as affiliates of the American Legion Auxiliary National Organization. Units shall be governed by their own Unit Constitution and/or Bylaws which shall not conflict with the National Constitution & Bylaws, National Standing Rules, National rules and policies, Department Constitution and Bylaws, or Department rules and policies. Units may refer to the Unit Guide Book, the Manual of Ceremonies and other publications of the National and Department organizations for guidance in the conduct of their programs and the administration of Unit activities.</p>	

Proposed by: Constitution & Bylaws Committee

Rationale: First part is redundant. Wording captured in Bylaws Article IX Units. Second part is not a rule. It is a listing of possible resources that could change over time. Standing Rules are reserved for the governing rules of the organization.

Proposal #27 – Standing Rule XI, Units, #5, Page 56

Current Wording	Proposed Amendment	If Adopted, Will Read
<p>5. A member who is not subject to suspension or membership revocation under the principle of fundamental fairness which includes notice and an opportunity to be heard is eligible to transfer membership to another Unit if the member has paid membership dues to the current Unit for either the current year or immediate past membership year. A member transferring to a new Unit must pay current year dues to either the current Unit or to the Unit into which the member wishes to transfer.</p> <p>Transfer is final upon verification of eligibility, evidence of paid membership, and acceptance of the transferee by the new Unit. Evidence of paid membership includes:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. American Legion Auxiliary Membership Card 2. Verification of membership by ALA Department or National Headquarters membership records. 3. Other documentation verifying payment 	<p>5. A member who is not subject to suspension or membership revocation under the principle of fundamental fairness which includes notice and an opportunity to be heard is eligible to transfer membership to another Unit if the member has paid membership dues to the current Unit for either the current year or immediate past membership year. A member transferring to a new Unit must have paid pay current year dues to either the current Unit or to the Unit into which the member wishes to transfer.</p> <p>A unit may initiate the eligibility verification process for a transfer member. Transfer is final upon verification of eligibility, evidence of paid membership, and acceptance of the transferee by the new Unit. Evidence of paid membership includes;</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. American Legion Auxiliary Membership Card; or 2. Verification of membership by ALA 	<p>5. A member who is not subject to suspension or membership revocation under the principle of fundamental fairness which includes notice and an opportunity to be heard is eligible to transfer membership to another Unit if the member has paid membership dues to the current Unit for either the current year or immediate past membership year. A member transferring to a new Unit must have paid current year dues to either the current Unit or to the Unit into which the member wishes to transfer.</p> <p>A unit may initiate the eligibility verification process for a transfer member. Transfer is final upon evidence of paid membership, and acceptance of the transferee by the new Unit. Evidence of paid membership includes;</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. American Legion Auxiliary Membership Card; or 2. Verification of membership by ALA Department or National Headquarters

<p>of current or immediate past year membership dues such as a cancelled check or receipt; or</p> <p>4. When verifying documentation is not available, a sworn statement that the member's membership dues payment was tendered.</p>	<p>Department or National Headquarters membership records; or</p> <p>3. Other documentation verifying payment of current or immediate past year membership dues such as a cancelled check or receipt. ;</p> <p>4. When verifying documentation is not available, a sworn statement that the member's membership dues payment was tendered.</p>	<p>membership records; or</p> <p>3. Other documentation verifying payment of current or immediate past year membership dues such as a cancelled check or receipt.</p>
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Proposed by: Constitution & Bylaws Committee

Rationale: NHQ does not accept a sworn statement as verifying documentation of dues paid. Allowing for flexibility in the eligibility verification on transfer as to not jeopardize eligibility at the time of transfer for divorce, widow, TAL member who is not longer a member, great-greats that were grandfathered in, etc.

Proposal #28 – Standing Rule XI, Units, #8, Page 57

Current Wording	Proposed Amendment	If Adopted, Will Read
<p>8. A valid American Legion Auxiliary Membership Card shall reflect the member’s current pertinent membership information and may either be:</p> <p>a) A preprinted Auxiliary membership card conveyed by a Unit or Department</p> <p>b) A preprinted Auxiliary membership card mailed via the United States Postal Service or couriered via a professional delivery service</p> <p>c) An Auxiliary membership card electronically or digitally printed from a new membership generated online or a renewed membership paid online or by phone via the American Legion Auxiliary website online membership system; an official American Legion Auxiliary membership card printed online must bear the electronic signature of the American Legion Auxiliary National Secretary and be hand-signed by the member.</p> <p>An American Legion Auxiliary</p>	<p>8. A valid American Legion Auxiliary Membership Card shall reflect the member’s current pertinent membership information and may either be:</p> <p>a) A preprinted Auxiliary membership card conveyed by a Unit, Department or National Headquarters.</p> <p>b) A preprinted Auxiliary membership card mailed via the United States Postal Service or couriered via a professional delivery service</p> <p>c) An Auxiliary membership card electronically or digitally printed from a new membership generated online or a renewed membership paid online or by phone via the American Legion Auxiliary website online membership system; an official American Legion Auxiliary membership card printed online must bear the electronic signature of the American Legion Auxiliary National Secretary and be hand-signed by the member.</p>	<p>8. A valid American Legion Auxiliary Membership Card shall reflect the member’s current pertinent membership information and may either be:</p> <p>a) A preprinted Auxiliary membership card conveyed by a Unit, Department or National Headquarters.</p> <p>b) An Auxiliary membership card electronically or digitally printed from the American Legion Auxiliary website online membership system; an official American Legion Auxiliary membership card printed online must bear the electronic signature of the American Legion Auxiliary National Secretary and be hand-signed by the member. An American Legion Auxiliary membership card electronically printed online as described carries all of the American Legion Auxiliary rights and privileges the same as does a pre-printed stock</p>

<p>membership card electronically printed online as described above in subsection 9(c) carries all of the American Legion Auxiliary rights and privileges the same as does a pre-printed stock Auxiliary membership card as described above in subsections 9 (a) and 9 (b).</p>	<p>An American Legion Auxiliary membership card electronically printed online as described above in subsection 9(e) carries all of the American Legion Auxiliary rights and privileges the same as does a pre-printed stock Auxiliary membership card as described in the standing rules. in subsections 9(a) and 9 (b).</p>	<p>Auxiliary membership card as described in the standing rules</p>
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Proposed by: Constitution & Bylaws Committee

Rationale: Simplified wording. No substantive changes.

Proposal #29 – XI. Units, #10, Page 57

Current Wording	Proposed Amendment	If Adopted, Will Read
<p>10. The Unit has the responsibility for the discipline of its members. A member disciplined by the member’s Unit may appeal the Unit’s disciplinary action in writing to the Department Executive Committee.</p> <p>All discipline must be imposed in accordance with the principle of fundamental fairness which includes notice and an opportunity to be heard. A Department may discipline a Unit for failure to discipline a member.</p>	<p>10. The Unit has the responsibility for the discipline of its members. A member disciplined by the member’s Unit may appeal the Unit’s disciplinary action in writing to the Department Executive Committee.</p> <p>All discipline must be imposed in accordance with the principle of fundamental fairness which includes notice and an opportunity to be heard. A Department may discipline a Unit for failure to discipline a member.</p>	

Proposed by: Constitution & Bylaws Committee

Rationale: Redundant. Bylaws XI. Discipline, Sections 1a and 3a.

Proposal #30 – XI. Units, #13, Page 58

Current Wording	Proposed Amendment	If Adopted, Will Read
13. A Unit whose charter has been canceled by its Department without the Unit's consent may appeal the Department's decision to the National Executive Committee as provided in these Standing Rules.	13. A Unit whose charter has been canceled by its Department without the Unit's consent may appeal the Department's decision to the National Executive Committee as provided in these Standing Rules.	

Proposed by: Constitution & Bylaws Committee

Rationale: Redundant. Captured in Bylaws Article XII, Section 5

Proposal #31 – XII. Charters, Unit Charters, Page 59

Current Wording	Proposed Amendment	If Adopted, Will Read
<p><u>Department Charters</u> 1. As provided in the National Bylaws, the National Executive Committee shall charter Departments with a minimum of five hundred (500) adult members. 2. The National Executive Committee, following the principle of fundamental fairness which includes notice and an opportunity to be heard, may discipline a Department or cancel the charter of a Department for any</p>	<p>Department Charters (section disappears) #1 – redundant, listed in Bylaws pg 17 #2 – moved to SRs on NEC page 40 #3 – captured in Bylaws XI. Discipline</p> <p>XII. Unit Charters 1 – STAYS 2 – STRIKE “department” replace with “Unit” 3 – strike – bylaws 4 – strike – bylaws 5(a-e) – strike – bylaws 6 – strike – bylaws</p> <p><u>Department Charters</u> 1. As provided in the National Bylaws, the National Executive Committee shall charter Departments with a minimum of five hundred (500) adult members. 2. The National Executive Committee, following the principle of fundamental fairness which includes notice and an opportunity to be heard, may discipline a Department or cancel the charter of a Department for any</p>	<p><u>Unit Charters</u> 1. A properly executed Unit charter application shall include typewritten names of at least ten (10) new or current Senior members and be accompanied by the per capita dues for each member, plus the Unit Charter fee. Application for Unit charters shall be signed by the Department President and the Commander and Adjutant of The American Legion Post to which the Unit is attached. 2. Unit charter fees should be in proportion to the current charter fee as established by National Headquarters. There shall be no charter fee for a Department Headquarters Unit.</p>

<p>good and sufficient cause. The National President shall independently appoint a subcommittee of three (3) to five (5) members of the National Executive Committee to investigate and make written findings of facts and recommendations regarding the discipline of a Department. Within 60 days of its appointment, the subcommittee shall present its written findings and recommendations to the National Executive Committee. All discipline of a Department or cancellation of a Department's charter must be imposed in accordance with the principle of fundamental fairness. The action of the National Executive Committee upon such findings and recommendations shall be final.</p> <p>3. The NEC may adopt additional procedures concerning a department's opportunity to be heard.</p> <p><u>Unit Charters</u></p> <p>1. A properly executed Unit charter application shall include typewritten names of at least ten (10) new or current Senior members and be accompanied by the per capita dues for each member, plus the Unit Charter fee. Application for Unit charters shall be signed by the</p>	<p>good and sufficient cause. The National President shall independently appoint a subcommittee of three (3) to five (5) members of the National Executive Committee to investigate and make written findings of facts and recommendations regarding the discipline of a Department. Within 60 days of its appointment, the subcommittee shall present its written findings and recommendations to the National Executive Committee. All discipline of a Department or cancellation of a Department's charter must be imposed in accordance with the principle of fundamental fairness. The action of the National Executive Committee upon such findings and recommendations shall be final.</p> <p>3. The NEC may adopt additional procedures concerning a department's opportunity to be heard.</p> <p><u>Unit Charters</u></p> <p>1. A properly executed Unit charter application shall include typewritten names of at least ten (10) new or current Senior members and be accompanied by the per capita dues for each member, plus the Unit Charter fee. Application for Unit charters shall be signed by the</p>	
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<p>Department President and the Commander and Adjutant of The American Legion Post to which the Unit is attached.</p> <p>2. Department charter fees should be in proportion to the current charter fee as established by National Headquarters. There shall be no charter fee for a Department Headquarters Unit.</p> <p>3. The Department Executive Committee may discipline a Unit or cancel the charter of a Unit for any good and sufficient cause. All such actions must be imposed in accordance with the principle of fundamental fairness, which includes notice and the opportunity to be heard. The Department shall permanently keep a record of all disciplinary actions, communications, or meetings.</p> <p>4. The Department Executive Committee may place a Unit on probation for a period not to exceed one year.</p> <p>5. A Unit whose charter has been canceled without its consent may appeal the Department's action to the National Executive Committee within sixty (60) days of receipt of notice of the Department's action.</p> <p>6. The National Secretary shall inform both the Unit and the Department of</p>	<p>Department President and the Commander and Adjutant of The American Legion Post to which the Unit is attached.</p> <p>2. Department Unit charter fees should be in proportion to the current charter fee as established by National Headquarters. There shall be no charter fee for a Department Headquarters Unit.</p> <p>3. The Department Executive Committee may discipline a Unit or cancel the charter of a Unit for any good and sufficient cause. All such actions must be imposed in accordance with the principle of fundamental fairness, which includes notice and the opportunity to be heard. The Department shall permanently keep a record of all disciplinary actions, communications, or meetings.</p> <p>4. The Department Executive Committee may place a Unit on probation for a period not to exceed one year.</p> <p>5. A Unit whose charter has been canceled without its consent may appeal the Department's action to the National Executive Committee within sixty (60) days of receipt of notice of the Department's action.</p>	
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the decision of the National Executive Committee, whose decision shall be final.	6. The National Secretary shall inform both the Unit and the Department of the decision of the National Executive Committee, whose decision shall be final.	
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Proposed by: Constitution & Bylaws Committee

Rationale: Department charter section is redundant. Unit charter section remains, so Standing Rule XII. Charters, changes to “Unit Charters” and redundancies were removed and wording was clarified.

Proposal #32, SR XII Dues Assessments, #4 and #5, Page 61

Current Wording	Proposed Amendment	If Adopted, Will Read
<p>4. A member failing to pay such annual dues by January thirty-first of the current membership year shall be delinquent and suspended from membership privileges.</p> <p>A member deemed delinquent for failing to pay dues by December 31 of the current membership year shall be classified as expired. Such expired member may rejoin as an active member under the member’s original join date without interruption of continuous years of membership, and membership privileges reinstated, by payment of all past dues.</p> <p>A member deemed expired for failing to pay dues by December 31 of the current membership year may rejoin, with a new join date, at any time in the future by re-establishing eligibility and making application as a new member. Membership cards will reflect the most recent join date.</p>	<p>4. A member failing to pay such annual dues by January thirty-first of the current membership year shall be delinquent and suspended from membership privileges.</p> <p>A member deemed delinquent for failing to pay dues by December 31 of the current membership year shall be classified as expired. Such expired member may rejoin as an active member under the member’s original join date without interruption of continuous years of membership, and membership privileges reinstated, by payment of all past dues.</p> <p>A member deemed expired for failing to pay dues by December 31 of the current membership year may rejoin, with a new join date, at any time in the future by re-establishing eligibility and making application as a new member. Membership cards will reflect the most recent join date.</p>	<p>4. There are four membership categories:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> a. Current: Any member paid for the current or upcoming membership year. A member whose dues are current have all membership privileges. b. Delinquent: A member failing to pay annual dues by January 31 of the current membership year. Delinquent members are suspended from membership privileges. Membership privileges can be reinstated upon renewal of membership. c. Expired: Any member who fails to renew their membership for 2 consecutive years. Expired members may become a current member by renewal of current membership dues. Payment of back dues may be paid in order to keep continuous years of membership. d. Former: Any member who fails to renew their membership for 3 or more consecutive years. Former members may rejoin at any time in

<p>Member applications and member reinstatements may also require Unit action if a Unit’s governing documents so state.</p> <p>5. The National Executive Committee, by a two-thirds vote in the affirmative, may levy a per capita assessment.</p>	<p>4. There are four membership categories:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> a. Current: Any member paid for the current or upcoming membership year. A member whose dues are current have all membership privileges. b. Delinquent: A member failing to pay annual dues by January 31 of the current membership year. Delinquent members are suspended from membership privileges. Membership privileges can be reinstated upon renewal of membership. c. Expired: Any member who fails to renew their membership for 2 consecutive years. Expired members may become a current member by renewal of current membership dues. Payment of back dues may be paid in order to keep continuous years of membership. d. Former: Any member who fails to renew their membership for 3 or more consecutive years. Former members may rejoin at any time in the future by: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> 1. re-establishing eligibility and completing a new application. Payment of back dues may be paid to keep continuous years 	<p>the future by:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> 1. re-establishing eligibility and completing a new application. Payment of back dues may be paid to keep continuous years of membership; or 2. A former member may pay all back dues to establish continuous membership if they are unable to re-establish eligibility. <p>Member applications and member reinstatements may also require Unit action if a Unit’s governing documents so state.</p> <p>5. The National Executive Committee by a two-thirds vote in the affirmative, may levy a per capita assessment.</p>
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	<p style="color: red;">of membership; or</p> <p style="color: red;">2. A former member may pay all back dues to establish continuous membership if they are unable to re-establish eligibility.</p> <p>Member applications and member reinstatements may also require Unit action if a Unit's governing documents so state.</p> <p style="color: red;">5. As provided in the National Bylaws, The National Executive Committee by a two-thirds vote in the affirmative, may levy a per capita assessment.</p>	
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Proposed by: Constitution & Bylaws Committee

Rationale: #4 current wording was confusing and did not reflect up-to-date NHQ Membership Division operations. Added ALAMIS categories of members for clarity. #5 authority stated in Bylaws. Removed redundant wording.

Proposal # 33 – Standing Rule VII. Committees, Advisory, Page 48

Current Wording	Proposed Amendment	If Adopted, Will Read
<p>Advisory: The National President may appoint an Advisory Committee subject to ratification by the National Executive Committee, comprised of members subject to confirmation by the National Executive Committee.</p>	<p>Advisory: The National President may appoint an Advisory Committee of three (3) to five (5) members subject to ratification by the National Executive Committee, comprised of members subject to confirmation by the National Executive Committee.</p>	<p>Advisory: The National President may appoint an Advisory Committee of three (3) to five (5) members subject to ratification by the National Executive Committee.</p>

Proposed by: Constitution and Bylaws Committee

Rationale: Both Standing Rule IV *Duties of National Officers* and Standing Rule VII *Committees* outline composition of the National Advisory Committee, however SR IV specifically states "3-5 members" whereas SR VII does not. Composition of a Committee belongs in SR VII on Committees. Removing composition of the National Advisory Committee from Standing Rule IV *Duties of National Officers* and combining it with Standing Rule VII *Committees* to capture the "3-5 members" composition rule.