

DISTRICT 11 CONSTITUTION

PREAMBLE

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 percent Americanism;
To preserve the memories and incidents of our associations during (the Great) **all 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 good will 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.

ARTICLE I NAME

Section 1. The name of this organization shall be the Eleventh District, American Legion Auxiliary, Department of Nebraska.

ARTICLE II OBJECT

Section 1: The object of this organization shall be to unify the work of the District; to further the purposes of the American Legion as outlined in its Preamble; and to assist and cooperate with all plans and policies of the State and the National organizations of the American Legion Auxiliary.

ARTICLE III MEMBERSHIP

Section 1: All Units in the Eleventh District belonging to the American Legion Auxiliary, Department of Nebraska, shall be considered members of this

organization.

Section 2: No person may be a member at any one time of more than one Unit of the American Legion Auxiliary.

ARTICLE IV OFFICERS

Section 1: The officers of the Eleventh District shall be District President, District Vice President, District Secretary/Treasurer, Historian, and Chaplain. At each annual District Convention, the duly elected and accredited delegates attending said Convention shall elect a District President and a District Vice President with the option to elect additional officers, i.e., Secretary/Treasurer, Historian, and Chaplain. District President and District Vice-President may serve two (2) consecutive terms. After having served two consecutive terms in each office they shall be ineligible for an elective office until two terms have elapsed. Any member who is in good standing and who is present at the District Convention shall be eligible for election to office.

Section 2: The duties of the officers of this organization shall be such as are customary and that parliamentary usage requires.

Section 3: The term of office of the District officers shall be one year. They shall be elected and installed at their District Convention and also at Department Convention along with the newly elected Department President and District Presidents. Their office will close at the ensuing Department Convention. The time period from District Convention to Department Convention will allow the District President to fully complete her year, while also serving as a training period for the new District President without deleting the final duties of the current District President. The outgoing District President would serve on the Department Executive Committee through Department Convention. The incoming District President would attend the Department Executive Committee meeting immediately following the adjournment of the Department Convention with the newly elected Department President presiding. This became effective at the Department Convention, 1992.

Section 4: The District Executive Committee shall be composed of the following: District President, District Vice President, District Secretary/Treasurer, District

Chaplain, District Historian, Junior Past District President, and the County Presidents of the District. County officers shall be elected at County Conventions. In the event a County President is not elected or is unable to serve, the District President shall have the authority to appoint a County President with the approval of the Department President. It will be the duty of these officers to act as representatives of the District President in all matters referred to **them**. (by her.)

Section 5: In the event of the death or resignation of the District President, the District Vice President shall immediately succeed to the office of the District President with written notification to the Department Secretary.

Section 6: In the event of the death or resignation of the District Vice President, the District President shall fill said vacancy by appointment with the approval of the District Executive Committee and shall notify the Department Secretary of the appointment.

ARTICLE V CONVENTIONS

Section 1: The time and place of the Annual Convention of the District shall be the same as that of the American Legion Convention of the District. The American Legion is to determine the time and place.

Section 2: Representation at the District Convention shall be the same as the granted Units at the Department Convention.

ARTICLE VI PARLIAMENTARY AUTHORITY

Section 1: The rules of procedure shall be those set forth in Robert's Rules of Order, Newly Revised, except as otherwise expressly provided herein.

ARTICLE VII AMENDMENTS

Section 1: Inasmuch as this is a uniform Constitution to be maintained by all Districts, amendments to this Constitution must be presented in writing to the District Presidents of the Department of Nebraska who will inform their respective Units at least sixty days prior to Department Convention. Said amendments shall be presented at the Department Convention to the Chairman of Constitution and

Bylaws and shall be read at least twenty-four hours before the vote thereon. It shall require a two-thirds vote to carry.

ARTICLE VIII BYLAWS

Section 1: Each District is privileged to adopt such Bylaws and Standing Rules as are deemed necessary provided they do not conflict in any way with the Department and National Constitution and Bylaws.

BYLAWS ARTICLE I

Section 1: The Eleventh District is privileged to adopt such Bylaws and Standing Rules as it may deem necessary, provided they do not conflict in any way with the State and National Constitution and Bylaws.

ARTICLE II DUTIES OF OFFICERS

Section 1: District President: It shall be the duty of the District President to preside at the District Convention and all District Executive Committee meetings, to attend Mid-Year Conference and Department Convention, the County Conventions and such other duties as are appropriate to (her) **this** office or as the Department President and Executive Committee may direct.

Section 2: District Vice President: The Vice President shall, when called upon assist the President (in her) **when** absent, perform (her) **such** duties and shall succeed (her in) **this** office; in case of death, resignation or removal from office (She) **The appointee** shall assume such other duties as shall be designated by the Department President.

Section 3: District Secretary/Treasurer: It shall be the duty of the Secretary/Treasurer to record proceedings of the District Convention and District Executive meetings, and to keep all books that are needed to successfully carry on the work of the office; to conduct (her) **this** office in a business-like manner. (She) **The Secretary Treasurer** shall care for the Archives of the District and shall keep a record of all money received from all members, from per capita

assessments or other sources. It shall be the duty of the Secretary to write up the minutes of the Convention and send to Department a copy thereof with a financial statement within three weeks following the District Convention and have the books in shape to turn over to the successor in office. (She) **This officer** shall (pay over) **transfer and** deliver to (her) **the new** successor all money, vouchers, books, and papers belonging to the District. (Her) **All accounts of this office** shall be audited annually.

Section 4: The District Secretary/Treasurer shall be bonded **through the State office.**

Section 5: District Chaplain: It shall be the duty of the District Chaplain to offer prayer at the opening and closing of District meetings and such other duties as the District President may direct. (She) **The District Chaplain** shall, also, be responsible for selecting a Unit to hold the Memorial Service at the District Convention and send names of deceased members to the Unit giving the Service.

Section 6: District Historian: It shall be the duty of the District Historian to compile the historical records of the District and make a report to the Department; to have charge of all Unit History Books entered at District Convention and be in charge of their judging.

Section 7: District Publicity Chairman: It shall be the duty of the District Publicity Chairman to collect news items from each Unit in the District and to compile these items into the District Publicity Book to be presented to the District President at the close of her term.

ARTICLE III ELECTION OF OFFICERS

Section 1: Election of Officers. The elective officers of the District shall be nominated by a committee composed of one member from each county in the District. The President shall also call for nominations from the floor.

Section 2: Each County shall caucus at the District Convention in County meetings to elect a member and an alternate on the Nominating Committee.

Section 3: The District President shall appoint one member on the Nominating Committee to act as chairman of the Committee.

Section 4: Election shall be by ballot and a majority of the votes cast shall be necessary to elect. When there is but one candidate for an office, the nominee may be elected by voice vote.

ARTICLE IV LEGISLATION

Section 1: The legislative body of the Eleventh District, American Legion Auxiliary, Department of Nebraska, shall be the Department Convention, to be held annually, at the same time and place as the Convention of the Eleventh District of the American Legion.

Section 2: Between conventions the administrative power of the District shall be vested in the District Executive Committee, which shall consist of the District President, District Vice President, District Secretary/Treasurer, District Historian, District Chaplain, Junior Past District President, and the County Presidents.

Section 3: Representation at the District Conventions shall be the same as that granted Units at the Department Convention.

Section 4: All Past District Presidents in good standing in their respective Units in this District who are present and register as such, shall be delegates to the District Convention, with voice and vote, to be executed with their respective Units.

Section 5: A quorum shall exist when twenty percent of the Units are represented either by elected officers or elected delegates.

ARTICLE V REVENUE

Section 1: The necessary revenue for the support of this District shall be derived from a fifty cent (\$.50) per capita tax payable to the District Secretary/Treasurer. Such revenue shall be used to defray the expenses of the District Convention, to pay the necessary expenses of the officers and such other expenses as may be approved by the Executive Board of the District. This tax shall be due on June 1, on current membership enrollment as of that day. The Secretary/Treasurer shall notify each Unit in the District after June 1 as to the amount of dues payable. Said dues shall be paid thirty (30) days after mailing notice of Secretary/Treasurer.

Section 2: From the per capita tax the District shall assume the following expenses plus other expenses approved by the Executive Committee:

- a. The District President shall be allowed expenses for postage, stationery, and mileage of thirty-five cents (\$.35) per mile to attend District meetings and two Executive meetings and her first official visit to each County to attend County meetings. Counties receiving a second visit will pay the mileage for that visit. (When the Vice-President or other DEC member, attends a State or County meeting in place of the President, then that person may be entitled to all privileges of the District President.) Two-hundred dollars (\$200.00), shall be given to the District President or District Vice-President to attend the National Convention. In the event the District President or Vice President does not attend the National Convention, the \$200.00 will be given to the representative representing District Eleven if (she is) they are from District Eleven. This person will give either an oral or written report at the next District 11 meeting. (February 2020)
- b. The District shall pay one-half of the expense for printing Convention programs (American Legion pays the other one-half).
 1. The District will pay only registration fees for all current District Officers and Chairmen.
 2. Registration and meals for invited Department Officers and/or Department Chairmen will be paid by the District. Guests are to be approved by the Executive Committee.
 3. Above Section 2 b, i, ii will become effective February 2018.
- c. The retiring President of the District shall be presented with a gift from her District.
- d. The District shall pay \$20.00 to the District Page serving at Department Convention.
- e. The District shall pay \$10.00 to all Department Chairmen who are members of the District attending Department Convention.
- f. The District may have a scholarship project upon the advice of the Executive Committee, amount and rules determined by them.
- g. At all District functions the Host Unit shall receive one-half ($\frac{1}{2}$) of the total registration and the District shall receive one-half ($\frac{1}{2}$).
- h. The District shall allow no more than \$50.00 for the Convention Hall.
- i. The District shall pay for only the poppies used in the Memorial Service. Other expenses will be paid by the Unit conducting the service.
- j. The District shall allow no more than \$35.00 toward the District Junior

Conference each year.

- k. The District shall allow \$10.00 to the Unit hosting Girls State Orientation each year.
- l. The District shall allow \$10.00 for a memorial in case of the death of a District Officer or the spouse of a District Officer.
- m. The District shall present awards in the form of certificates to the winners of all contests. All Units entering contests will receive certificates of entry.
- n. It is recommended that the Counties take turns in alphabetical order presenting a candidate for District Vice President.
- o. The District shall allow monetary assistance to a member in good standing who is a candidate for a Department or National office, this amount not to exceed \$50.00.

Section 3: Respect shall be given to those who have served District Eleven as District President and to those members of District Eleven who have served as Department President.

- a. Members of District Eleven who have served as Department or District President shall receive their registration fee at all District Eleven Conventions.
- b. Past District Presidents, Past Department Presidents of District Eleven, and invited guests shall receive a corsage at the District Convention.
- c. Past District Presidents and Past Department Presidents, if not serving as a Unit President or on the District Executive Committee, and if requested, shall receive a copy of all newsletters sent out by the District President.

ARTICLE VI PARLIAMENTARY RULING

Section 1: Parliamentary Ruling: This District organization shall be governed by Robert's Rules of Order, Newly Revised in all points not covered by the National, State, and District Constitution and Bylaws.

ARTICLE VII VIRTUAL MEETINGS

Section 1: Virtual Meetings: In the event of an emergency, cancelled or postponed District 11 meeting, then the governing board or DEC may come together to virtually make those decisions. (March 2021)

ARTICLE VIII
AMENDMENTS

Section 1: Amendments: The Bylaws may be amended at any regular District Convention of the Eleventh District, provided the amendment has been submitted to the Units and read to the District Executive Committee, previous to the District Convention and upon second readings at the Convention, by a majority vote.

Section 2: This Constitution and Bylaws shall be in line with National and State Constitutions and Bylaws of the American Legion Auxiliary, and all changes shall be made accordingly, without a vote. (March 2021)

Section 3: The proposed amendment shall be in writing and signed by the one proposing same.

Updated: [March 27, 2021](#)
(District Convention)
[Western, Nebraska](#)

[\(Approved at Western, Nebraska on March 27, 2021\)](#)

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District President

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District Secretary/Treasurer