

Proposed WWII HRS Bylaw Changes

The original wording is followed by the proposed new wording with a purpose listed for each change. This updated is dated 16 November 2015.

Bylaw Vote #1

**ARTICLE III
MEMBERSHIP**

Section 2. TYPES OF MEMBERSHIPS

- C. **AN ASSOCIATE MEMBER** is any person or business that wishes to receive the SOCIETY official publications or buy advertising in its publication(s), but cannot take part in any event private or public. An associate member can vote and must have all dues/fees paid as prescribed in Society by-laws.

Proposed New Wording

- C. **AN ASSOCIATE MEMBER** is any person or business that wishes to receive the SOCIETY official publications ~~or buy~~ **and be eligible to advertise** in its publication(s), but cannot take part in any event private or public. An associate member can vote and must have all dues/fees paid as prescribed in Society by-laws.

Purpose: to clarify associate membership; remove reference to buy/selling.

Bylaw Vote #2

**ARTICLE III
MEMBERSHIP**

Section 3. ANNUAL DUES

The membership shall determine by vote all dues and fees to be accessed. All renewals must be paid by January 1st of each year. This will insure delivery of the official publication(s) are uninterrupted. Elected officers must have their dues paid in order to hold office. An elected officer who does not have his/her dues paid on time shall lose their office and membership and the office shall be declared vacant.

Proposed New Wording

The membership shall determine by vote all dues and fees to be **assessed** ~~accessed~~. All renewals must be paid by ~~January 1st~~ **April 1 of each year to ensure unit standing**. ~~This will insure delivery of the official publication(s) are uninterrupted~~. Elected officers must have their dues paid in order to hold office. ~~An elected officer who does not have his/her dues paid on time shall lose their office and membership and the office shall be declared vacant.~~

Purpose: Change renewal deadline from Jan 1 to April 1; remove unneeded clause since to be a board member you have to be a member which means your dues must be paid to be in office.

Bylaw Vote #3

**ARTICLE IV
UNIT RECOGNITION**

Section 1. UNITS FORMING

A unit forming shall have no less than five (5) individuals of REGULAR or FAMILY membership. Each unit forming shall have two (2) years from its date of acceptance to apply for a charter and gain status as a recognized chartered unit. A Unit Forming that has not applied for a charter by its second year anniversary may apply for a one year extension to the Board of Directors or disband. Said unit may join with another chartered unit or a Unit Forming, but cannot simply change its name to stay in existence. Any unit which has received a charter, which falls below the five (5) member requirement for more than two (2) continuance years, must also disband and cannot revert to unit forming status or reapply under a new name.

Section 1. UNIT FORMATION

Any new unit applying for a SOCIETY unit charter, must submit a unit application; then be considered by the Safety and Authenticity Committee; and if approved will be granted a probationary charter ~~A unit forming shall have no less than five (5) individuals of REGULAR or FAMILY membership. A unit may have at least one (1) year and no more than up to two (2) years from its date of acceptance~~ **approved probationary charter** to apply for a full charter and gain status as a recognized chartered unit. ~~A Unit Forming that has not applied for a charter by its second year anniversary may apply for a one year extension to the Board of Directors or~~ **A probationary unit that is not able to gain status as a fully chartered unit shall** disband. Said unit may join with another chartered unit or a Unit Forming, but cannot simply change its name to stay in existence. Any unit which has received a charter, which falls below the five (5) member requirement for more than two (2) continuance years, must also disband and cannot revert to unit forming status or reapply under a new name.

Purpose: Removes unit forming status and changes to probationary charter, removes outdated clauses.

Bylaw Vote #4

Section 4. UNIT DISBANDMENT

Chartered units that have no members that belong to the Society and/or have had no active participation in any World War II Historical Re-Enactment Society, Inc. event for a period of two (2) years will be deemed to have disbanded and the unit charter shall be revoked.

Section 4. UNIT DISBANDMENT

Chartered units that have no members that belong to the Society and/or have had no active participation in any ~~World War II Historical Re-Enactment Society, Inc.~~ **reenacting/living history** event for a period of two (2) years will be deemed to have disbanded and the unit charter shall be revoked. **Chartered units, with the exception of non-combat, with more than one (1) member but less than five (5) members in the current calendar year, may revert to probationary status and must be notified of the change. At the end of the second probationary year, if the 5 member threshold is not reached by the unit, with the exception of a non-combat unit, it may be disbanded by vote of the Safety and Authenticity Committee and board of directors.**

Purpose: Consolidate unit disbandment so that it is not in two different places. Units with no activity for 2 years are to be disbanded. Units falling below 5 are placed into probationary unit status and removed after 2 years of that status. If there is some interest in a chartered unit with less than 5 members and several secondary members there is some flexibility to consider keeping a charter or disbanding. With no consideration of secondary members the "Other Nations" and PTO units may likely fold.

Bylaw Vote #5

ARTICLE VI BOARD OF DIRECTORS

Section 7. QUORUM FOR A BOARD MEETING

There must be three (3) Board members present to conduct any Board meeting and at least one of these must be an officer of the corporation, either President, Vice President, Secretary or Treasurer.

Proposed New Wording

~~There must be three (3)~~ **A simple majority of all** Board members **must be** present to conduct any Board meeting **including at least one officer** ~~and at least one of these must be an officer~~ of the corporation, either President, Vice President, Secretary or Treasurer. **In the event a quorum is not attained, or an officer of the corporation not present, a meeting may be called to order by any current Board member for informational purposes only with no possibility of any binding resolutions or expenditures of funds.**

Purpose: change board meeting quorum and clarify informational meeting.

Bylaw Vote #6

ARTICLE VI BOARD OF DIRECTORS

Section 8. BOARD APPOINTED POSITIONS

The Board of Directors has the authority to appoint persons to the following positions: Registered Agent, Officer's Assistants, Editors of the Society's publications, and committees

Proposed New Wording

Section 8. BOARD APPOINTED POSITIONS

The Board of Directors has the authority to appoint persons to the following positions: Registered Agent, Officer's Assistants, ~~Editors of the Society's publications~~ **media staff**, and committees.

Purpose: update wording to agree with revised publications section.

Bylaw Vote #7

ARTICLE VII: FINANCES AND CONTRACTS

Section 4. COMPENSATION & REIMBURSEMENT

Members of the Board of Directors shall not receive any salaries for performing their duties. Members of the Board of Directors, The Registered Agent, and the Editors of the Society's publication(s) may, if the funds exist, apply for reimbursement, but must present to the Treasurer proof through receipts, of legitimate expenses. Refer to the duties of the President, Article VI, Section 3.

PROPOSED NEW WORDING

Section 4. COMPENSATION & REIMBURSEMENT

Members of the Board of Directors shall not receive any salaries for performing their duties. Members of the Board of Directors, The Registered Agent, and ~~the Editors~~ **media staff** of the Society's publication(s) may, if the funds exist, apply for reimbursement, but must present to the Treasurer proof through receipts, of legitimate expenses. Refer to the duties of the President, Article VI, Section 3.

Purpose: update wording to agree with revised publications section.

Bylaw Vote #8

ARTICLE X: ADMINISTRATIVE RULES

Section 1. IMPRESSIONS

Any REGULAR or FAMILY member may do two (2) impressions; the first impression being his/her primary unit; the second impression being from any other nationality. A person doing a secondary impression must gain permission from, and be attached to, a chartered unit while he is in the field.

PROPOSED NEW WORDING

Section 1. IMPRESSIONS

Any REGULAR or FAMILY member ~~may do two (2) impressions~~ **have multiple impressions**; the first impression being his/her primary unit; the second impression being from any other nationality. A person doing a secondary impression must gain permission from, and be attached to, a chartered unit while he is in the field the primary impression is of the chartered unit to which the member belongs. A member can have a secondary impression that is defined as an impression that is the primary impression of a different chartered unit. Any member wishing to wear a secondary impression must gain permission from, and be attached to, the unit chartered for that impression while at any SOCIETY event. Secondary impressions do not count for the chartered unit membership minimum levels. Any impression that is not a primary impression for a chartered unit is not considered a secondary impression. These impressions can be freely worn by members as appropriate at any HRS event, the hosting unit deciding on whether it is appropriate.

Purpose: to allow for a person to have a secondary impression to include a different theater of operations that may be the same nationality.

Bylaw Vote #9

**ARTICLE X:
ADMINISTRATIVE RULES**

Section 5. BYLAW AMENDMENT PROCESS

Add:

6. Any member in good standing may propose a change or addition to the S&A rules following the bylaw amendment procedure.

Purpose: Give the membership a means to change the S&A rules if necessary.

Bylaw Vote #10

**ARTICLE XII:
OFFICIAL PUBLICATIONS**

Section 1. NUMBER & PUBLICATION DATES

- A. ~~There shall be at least one (1) official Society publication.~~
- B. ~~This publication shall be published no less than once per quarter annually.~~
- C. ~~Future publications may, in addition to being printed on paper, may be distributed electronically if the membership so chooses and the technology is readily available.~~

Section 2. PURPOSE

- A. ~~The purpose of the Society's publication(s) shall be to provide the membership a means of communication and to take care of such other official business as needed to keep the Society running smoothly. Official business shall include, but **NOT** be limited to, the printing of:~~
 - 1. ~~Reports to the membership on Board meetings and decisions.~~
 - 2. ~~Ballots as needed.~~
 - 3. ~~Listing of units and their commanders.~~
 - 4. ~~Unit articles.~~
 - 5. ~~Battle/event listings.~~
 - 6. ~~Advertising.~~
 - 7. ~~A timely source of information on events and/or Society activities.~~

Section 3. EDITORSHIP

- A. ~~The editor(s) of the Society's publication(s) shall not be officers of the corporation or of the Society and shall not take sides on any political matters via the Society's publications.~~
- B. ~~The editor of each publication shall endeavor to have the publications printed in the President's directives regarding public relations.~~
- C. ~~The editors shall submit in writing to the Board of Directors an annual budget for the forthcoming fiscal year, during or before the annual meeting, and shall not proceed to print in the following year unless this budget has been approved by the Board. This budget shall include estimates for:~~
 - 1. ~~Printing charges.~~
 - 2. ~~Labeling charges.~~
 - 3. ~~Postage.~~
 - 4. ~~Editor's expenses.~~
- D. ~~The editors shall not allow anything to be printed involving the use of profanity or personal attacks.~~
- E. ~~Any and all funds collected by the editors for advertising, half-toning of photos, or sales shall be turned over to the Treasurer quarterly.~~
- F. ~~No copies of Society's publication(s) of a current yearly status may be given out free of charge.~~
- G. ~~Members of the Board of Directors may not interfere with the editor's duties as long as the above guidelines are followed.~~

PROPOSED NEW WORDING (entire section change listed without cross-outs for clarity):
Purpose: Bring the HRS publications into line with electronic media.

ARTICLE XII: OFFICIAL PUBLICATIONS AND MEDIA

Section 1. SOCIETY MEDIA

- A. There shall be at least one (1) official SOCIETY periodical, one (1) website, and the SOCIETY may have (1) social media outlet per type.
- B. The SOCIETY periodical shall be published no less than once per quarter annually. All electronic media may be updated as needed for the good purposes of the SOCIETY.
- C. All SOCIETY Media (sites/publications) must use the approved SOCIETY Logo or Banner, must have the express permission of the SOCIETY media committee. Unauthorized use is prohibited.

Section 2. PURPOSE

- A. The purpose of the Society's media shall be to inform the membership on all SOCIETY activities, official business, and to promote the general welfare of the SOCIETY. Official business shall include, but NOT be limited to SOCIETY board members and staff contact information; financial reports; board meeting minutes; any elections or votes; unit listings; sanctioned SOCIETY events; living history related advertisements; and other SOCIETY activities.

Section 3. MEDIA STAFF

- A. The media staff must be current members who are not officers of the Society and may include but not be limited to Media Coordinator, periodical editor, webmaster, and social media coordinator.
- B. The media staff shall endeavor to include the President's directives regarding public relations.
- C. The media staff shall submit in writing to the Board of Directors an annual budget for the forthcoming fiscal year by November 1 of the current year and shall not proceed to publish in the following year unless this budget has been approved by the Board. This budget shall include estimates for any printed material, postage, or electronic media expenses.
- D. The media staff shall be impartial to SOCIETY issues and will not allow the publication of profanity, vulgarity, pornography, personal attacks, slander, and to the best of their knowledge any falsehood. The Board of Directors may not interfere with the media staff duties as long as these guidelines are followed.
- E. Any and all funds collected by the media staff for advertising shall be turned over to the Treasurer monthly.
- F. Any media staff may be removed from their position by a majority board of director's vote at any regular Board of Director's meeting.

Bylaw Vote #11

Note: this vote would remove the last two sections in the bylaws (XIII and XIV), replace them with the proposed "Article XIII, Operations Guidebook" and create the first part of the "WWII HRS Operations Guidebook."

The purpose of the Operations Guidebook would be to remove sections from the bylaws that are not necessarily required by law or required for a non-for-profit organization administration and

place them in a separate document. The Bylaws would include the general structure for the management of the Society that would seldom change. The Operations Guidebook would include rules specific to the Society and more detailed explanations of the Bylaws. For example the bylaws would explain what a member of the Society is and the Guidelines would detail the type of membership, how a member joins a unit, how to change units, and so on. The "WWII HRS Etiquette" and "Housekeeping Regulations" are two sections of the bylaws to move to the Guidebook. There are other sections and clauses that would be better suited to the Operations Guidebook as well. These are specific rules that are not describing the structure of the Society but rather the operations of the Society. More can be added in the future as policies develop or change. The bylaws, with sections moved to the Operations Guidebook, would likely not be changed often and would eventually be more difficult to change than the Operations Guidebook. This document would be kept by the Secretary and posted on the Society website the same as the bylaws.

Existing wording to be removed:

~~ARTICLE XIII: WWII HRS ETIQUETTE~~

~~All members of the WWII HRS shall, in keeping with our goals and objectives, be governed by and subject to the following code of ethics:~~

- ~~1. The use of any item that does not belong to you without permission is prohibited. The theft of any item, no matter how small, is grounds for prosecution and dismissal from the Society.~~
- ~~2. While in a camp or barracks area, respect the right of privacy of other campers.~~
- ~~3. The use or possession of illegal drugs/narcotics is cause for immediate expulsion.~~
- ~~4. Failure to follow event posted or announced rules can and will lead to expulsion from the Society and from future Society events.~~
- ~~5. Keep safety and authenticity in mind at all times.~~
- ~~6. Do not use profanity, slander, libelous statements in correspondence to convey any threat, implied or real, to any member.~~
- ~~7. Members of the WWII HRS cannot use WWII HRS publications or events for any political purpose.~~
- ~~8. Proprietary Society membership information cannot be released without the Board of Directors as well and the individual member's approval.~~
- ~~9. It is the responsibility of all members and units present at any event to stand safety and authenticity inspections.~~
- ~~10. As a point of etiquette, keep late night activities reasonable.~~
- ~~11. Unit Commanders shall be responsible for the control and behavior of all minors in their unit.~~
- ~~12. Keep all campsites and barracks policed and secure.~~
- ~~13. Do not leave campfires unattended.~~
- ~~14. Do not argue over the calling of hits.~~

- ~~15. No flag other than the United States, and the British Commonwealth flags are ever to be saluted. The Nazi or Fascist salute is never to be used. No goose step marching by Axis troops.~~
- ~~16. All non-political flags may be displayed, however only American and commonwealth flags may be flown from a pole or staff.~~
- ~~17. Black SS, Brown SA, and political uniforms and Hitler Youth uniforms and any WWII German uniform that uses a swastika arm-band may not be used at any WWII HRS event.~~
- ~~18. When traveling to or from any event, do not display weapons or WWII German uniforms where they may be seen by the public.~~

ARTICLE XIV: HOUSEKEEPING REGULATIONS

In addition to the by-laws, the WWII HRS shall also be governed by such "Housekeeping Regulations" as the Board of Directors feel necessary to carry out WWII HRS objectives.

- ~~1. If a member wishes to change units, the member must notify the WWII HRS Secretary. This will not be done by the Unit Commander.~~
- ~~2. Membership dues for each fiscal year are as follows:
 - ~~A. Regular Membership - \$15.00 per individual via electronic application~~
 - ~~B. Regular Membership - \$20.00 per individual via electronic application~~
 - ~~C. Family Membership - \$10.00 per each additional family member
[Jan 2014]~~~~
- ~~3. For a period of two (2) fiscal years, no elitist units will be allowed to form (1996 - 1998).~~
- ~~4. No joining or renewing at events. All of this must be done through the mail on the approved application.~~
- ~~5. No new member application or renewals will be processed within 21 days of the National Battle.~~
- ~~6. Board of Director meetings will be held monthly via conference call open to the membership.~~

Proposed New Wording:

ARTICLE XIII: OPERATIONS GUIDEBOOK

Section 1: Description

The administration and management of the SOCIETY will conform to the guidelines, rules, and regulations set forth in the "*Operations Guidebook*" that do not violate or conflict with the SOCIETY bylaws or any other governmental law. An up to date document will be kept by the SOCIETY Secretary and posted on the SOCIETY website.

Section 2: Amendments

To enact a change to the *Operations Guidebook* the by-law amendment process must be followed with a simple majority of the membership vote necessary to enact amendments.

Proposed new document:

WWII HRS OPERATIONS GUIDEBOOK

ARTICLE I Introduction

Section 1: Description

The administration and management of the SOCIETY will conform to the guidelines, rules, and regulations set forth in the Operations Guidebook that do not violate or conflict with the SOCIETY bylaws or any other governmental law.

Section 2: Precedence - The SOCIETY order of the rules shall be:

1. The Articles of Incorporation of the Association
2. The Bylaws, as long as they are not in conflict with any other governmental law;
3. The "Operations Guidebook" established by the Board, as long as these policies and procedures are not in conflict with the Articles of Incorporation, Bylaws, or any other governmental law.

Section 3: Amendments

To enact a change to the Operations Guidebook the by-law amendment process must be followed with a simple majority of the membership vote necessary to enact amendments.

ARTICLE II: WWII HRS Code of Ethics

All members of the WWII HRS shall, in keeping with our goals and objectives, be governed by and subject to the following code of ethics. Violations may be grounds for disciplinary actions up to termination of membership.

1. The use of any item that does not belong to you without permission is prohibited. The theft of any item, no matter how small, is grounds for prosecution and dismissal from the Society.
2. While in a camp or barracks area, respect the right of privacy of other campers.
3. The use or possession of illegal drugs/narcotics is cause for immediate expulsion.
4. Failure to follow event posted or announced rules can and will lead to expulsion from the Society and from future Society events.
5. Keep safety and authenticity in mind at all times.
6. Do not use profanity, slander, libelous statements in correspondence to convey any threat, implied or real, to any member.
7. Members of the WWII HRS cannot use WWII HRS publications or events for any political purpose.
8. Proprietary Society membership information cannot be released without the Board of Directors as well and the individual member's approval.
9. It is the responsibility of all members and units present at any event to stand safety and authenticity inspections.
10. As a point of etiquette, keep late night activities reasonable.
11. Unit Commanders shall be responsible for the control and behavior of all minors in their unit.
12. Keep all campsites and barracks policed and secure.
13. Do not leave campfires unattended.

14. Do not argue over the calling of hits.
15. No flag other than the United States, and the British Commonwealth flags are ever to be saluted. The Nazi or Fascist salute is never to be used. No goose step marching by Axis troops.
16. All non-political flags may be displayed, however only American and commonwealth flags may be flown from a pole or staff.
17. Black SS, Brown SA, and political uniforms and Hitler Youth uniforms and any WWII German uniform that uses a swastika arm-band may not be used at any WWII HRS event.
18. When traveling to or from any event, do not display weapons or WWII German uniforms where they may be seen by the public.
19. Sexual Harassment of any kind is unacceptable and prohibited toward any member, spectator, or any person associated with the SOCIETY and are grounds for termination of membership. Any violations should be reported to the Vice President and treated confidentially.

ARTICLE III: SOCIETY HOUSEKEEPING REGULATIONS

1. If a member wishes to change units, the member must notify the WWII HRS Secretary. This will not be done by the Unit Commander.
2. Membership dues for each fiscal year are as follows:
 - a. Regular Membership - \$15.00 per individual via electronic application
 - b. Regular Membership - \$20.00 per individual
 - c. Family Membership - \$10.00 per each additional family member
[Updated Jan 2014]
 - d. Associate Membership - \$25
3. No joining or renewing at events. All of this must be done ~~through the mail on the approved application~~ by **appropriate method or application at least one week before the event.**
4. No new member application or renewals will be processed within 21 days of the National Battle.
5. Board of Director meetings will be held monthly via conference call open to the membership.

ARTICLE IV SOCIETY MEDIA

Section 1. Media Staff: Positions and Structure

The following media staff may be appointed by the board of directors and governed by the rules outlined in the Bylaws, **OFFICIAL PUBLICATIONS AND MEDIA:**

1. **Media Coordinator** – Organize the media staff to coordinate a consistent message and resources across all media for the SOCIETY. If any of the listed positions are unfilled the Media Coordinator will assume those duties.
2. **Periodical Editor** – Compile and edit at least one SOCIETY periodical at minimum quarterly.
3. **Webmaster** – Update and edit the SOCIETY website as needed and directed by the Media Coordinator and board of directors.

4. **Social Media Editor/Coordinator** – Update the SOCIETY with timely information on SOCIETY activities and general information on WWII living history through social media as needed and directed by the Media Coordinator and board of directors.
5. **Society Archivist and Library** - manage, preserve, coordinate use of any society media (photographs, video/film footage, old publications, etc) for further use and prosperity.

Bylaw Vote #12

Should the following WWII HRS ETIQUETTE Section be retained?

18. When traveling to or from any event, do not display weapons or WWII German uniforms where they may be seen by the public.

Purpose: Since German uniforms/insignia can be controversial in general, members are discouraged from wearing them in a public location that is not part of a WWII reenactment or display. The same for any weapon, which should generally stay on the designated WWII reenactment site for the duration of the event lest there is any legal problem.