



American Legion Auxiliary
Department of California
Constitution & Bylaws
2023 - 2024

As you all are aware, our theme this year is "United as One" and President Glenda's motto is "California – the Golden State". Districts and Units have been very busy making sure their governing documents are current and in order.

We have a total of 29 Districts and year-end reports were received from 27 of them. There were 15 Districts that had 100% reporting. Information compiled from 162 Units confirms they are using Robert's Rules of Order to assist with parliamentary procedure in addition to adhering to District and Unit Standing Rules and Constitution & Bylaws while staying in compliance with Department and National.

Several Districts and Units have reported 10 year rewrites as well as amendments. Most pertain to the relocation of the dues amount to their Standing Rules and reviewing them to confirm which officers are elected vs. appointed. Additionally, changes were made to reflect a change in eligibility to read "spouse" instead of "wife" as mandated by National. One District refers to this process as "Spring Cleaning Season" referring to reviewing documents for compliance as well as the paperwork necessary to be seated at Convention!

It has been reported that most members have memorized the Preamble to the Constitution and it is recited at meetings. It has also been reported that most Units and Districts provide copies of Standing Rules and Bylaws to new members. They also recommend all members review them throughout the year for possible updates. Districts and Units have reported maintaining procedure books for the President, Secretary and Constitution & Bylaws Chairman and some include other officers as well.

I am happy to report a success story! One District was in the process of losing 2 Units; however, all members, except one who moved out of state with plans to join a Unit there, have transferred or are in the process of transferring to another Unit within the District. This Unit had voted to close last year but with the hard work of the District "thinking outside the box",

Unit members elected new officers to fulfill the term thru June 2024 and have held regular meetings since February 2024!

Constitution Day is September 17th. To commemorate the signing of the United States Constitution in 1787, one Unit celebrated at a local Orange County elementary school of 368 students. Their Post Color Guard presented colors for the school wide assembly. A Unit member gave an informative speech about the history and meaning of the United States Constitution. Each grade level participated by presenting a patriotic song, poem or reciting the preamble of the Constitution. This District also had an exciting and engaging pop quiz after a brief review of the purpose of the Constitution and Bylaws and Standing Rules and members were given tasty candy rewards for their correct answers.

As quoted from one Unit Constitution and Bylaws Chairman,
“Let us remember the people we met, the places we visited and the sacrifices of so many who gave of themselves for our Country. Throughout our future travels, in the Spirit of Service Not Self for Veterans, God and Country, may we continue our ongoing commitment, integrity, honesty, fairness, openness, responsibility and respect”.

Sharon Moore
Constitution & Bylaws Chairman
Department of California
2023/2024

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Convention Committee Meeting Report

The Convention Committee on Constitution & Bylaws met on June 27, 2024 in Mineral King B room. The statistical report of this Chairman appears on page 28 in the book of Reports.

Liz Tungate – District 20 was appointed Secretary
Suzanne Winters – District 6 offered prayer, and
Diana Livas – District 19 was appointed Sargent-At-Arms.

A total of 19 District Delegates answered roll call. There were 5 visitors present.

The meeting adjourned and reconvened on Friday June 28, 2024 to continue with review of the Standing Rules. Committee agreed upon the following report: The Department Code was read and there was one Code Change. 6c shall be amended to read: Constitution & Bylaws amendments and rewrites shall be read at two consecutive regular Unit/District meetings. By direction of the committee, I move for acceptance of this code change. 2nd and 3rd place awards as well as 100% certificates were presented in committee. The Department Constitution, Bylaws and Standing Rules were reviewed. The proposed amendments are as follows: (see proposed amendments) 1) Constitution. 2) Bylaws. 3)

Standing Rules.

*Meeting adjourned with prayer
at 12:15 pm.*