

By-laws
of
Irish Brigade, Camp No. 4
Maryland Department
Sons of Union Veterans of the Civil War

Adopted July 27, 2000
As Amended
January 25, 2001
November 29, 2001
December 19, 2002
December 18, 2003



Preamble

We the members of the Irish Brigade Camp No. 4, who are the descendants of Soldiers, Sailors, Marines or members of the Revenue Cutter Service, who served the United States of America during the War of the Rebellion of 1861 to 1865, have formed this Camp of the Sons of Union Veterans of the Civil War for the purposes set forth in the National Constitution and Regulations of the Order, and in so doing pledge ourselves to commemorate our fathers' deeds, to render loyal service to our communities and our Country, and to promote the maintenance of unqualified American citizenship with respect for and honor to our Nation's flag.

Article I Name, Number and Jurisdiction

Section 1. The name of the Camp shall be: Irish Brigade Camp No. 4, Maryland Department, Sons of Union Veterans of the Civil War.

Section 2. It shall act under the authority of its Charter, as approved by the Maryland Department, and granted from the National Organization, and serve the central Virginia region.

Section 3. The Camp reserves to itself the right, as granted under Article VI, Section 8 of the National Constitution and Regulations, to arrange its members who reside in different communities into divisions or sections corresponding to such communities; it may give each division or section a distinctive name, prescribe its organization and delegate to it such work of the Camp in that community as the Camp may specify. Once that division or section reaches a level where it can be self sustaining, both financially and in its number of members, it shall be encouraged, but not required, to apply for its own Camp Charter.

Article II Meetings

Section 1. The Camp shall meet monthly.

Section 2. The place of meeting shall be determined by the Camp Commander or his designee.

Section 3. Special meetings of the Camp may be convened by the Camp Commander with approval of the Camp Council; and, shall be convened by the Camp Commander upon petition of five members, provided that not less than ten (10) days notice stating the purpose of said meeting shall be given to all members.

Section 4. Meetings that must be postponed due to weather conditions will be announced to the membership via email. Members will be notified of alternate meeting dates for those meetings that must be postponed.

Section 5. Meetings shall be conducted using the Order of Business as shown in the Order's Ritual and Ceremonies and business conducted using Robert's Rules of Order, Revised.

Article III Dues and Fees

Section 1. Camp dues rates shall be reviewed and fixed by a majority of the members present and voting at the last regular meeting prior to the dues notice being issued.

Section 2. Dues payable to the Camp shall be the Camp dues, plus the annual assessments and per-capita taxes due the Department and the National Organization.

Section 3. Dues for Life Members will be the same as the amount determined in *Section 1* plus the per-capita tax due the Department less any disbursements received the previous fiscal year from the National Organization Life Member Fund.

Section 4. Dues and fees for Associates shall be the same as those for Members.

Section 5. Dues for Juniors shall be the amount determined in *Section 1*.

Section 6. Dues notices shall be issued during the month of December each year. Payment shall be due January 1st for the membership year.

Section 7. Members whose annual dues, as determined in *Section 2*, are late shall pay a fine of two dollars (\$2.00) per quarter or portion thereof.

Section 8. New members shall pay an amount equal the amount determined in *Section 2* plus a fifteen dollar (\$15.00) initiation fee.

Section 9. The Camp dues and Department and National Organization annual assessments and per-capita taxes paid by new members shall be pro-rated by quarter to the quarter in which the Camp first pays assessments and taxes for the new member. The difference between the amount collected and the expenses incurred for the new member will be applied toward the next year's dues, assessments and taxes for said member.

Section 10. A member transferring to the Camp shall pay the balance of the annual assessments, if the funds are not transferred from the member's former Camp, and a fifteen dollar (\$15.00) transfer fee.

Article IV Officers

Section 1. The Officers of the Camp, elective and appointive, shall consist of those required by the National Constitution and Regulations, the Department By-laws and such additional as may be provided for by the Camp By-laws or action of the Camp.

Section 2. The Officers shall perform such duties as set forth in the National Constitution and Regulations, the Department By-laws and as may hereafter be specified.

Section 3. All Officers, except the Camp Secretary and Camp Treasurer, shall be elected and/or appointed for a period of one (1) year. The Camp Secretary and Camp Treasurer shall each be elected for two (2) year terms. The Camp Secretary and Camp Treasurer offices may be elected as a single office known as the Camp Secretary-Treasurer for a term of two (2) years.

Section 4. There will be no salary or other compensation paid to any Camp Officer either elected or appointed. Out-of-pocket expenses expended in the conduct of official Camp business, including telephone toll charges, postage, printing costs, etc., but excluding personal expenses, transportation, hotel or per diem expenses, may be reimbursed by the Treasurer after receipts are presented and the reimbursement has been approved by the Camp Council.

Article V

Orders

Section 1. The Camp Commander shall issue at least four (4) Camp Orders each year. These Orders will include, but are not limited to, the announcement of Camp election results, the announcement of Memorial Day observances, the annual dues notice and the notice of Camp elections. Excluding the dues notice, which will be issued as an independent Order, the Orders may be in the form of a newsletter issued to each member.

Section 2. The Camp Commander shall issue Special Orders on the death of a Camp Officer, Past Camp Commander, Department Officer or Past Department Commander.

Article VI Finances

Section 1. The Camp Treasurer in cooperation with the Camp Secretary shall submit the per-capita tax and assessments to the Department according to the schedule established by the Department and the National Organization.

Section 2. The depository for all Camp funds shall be a Federally insured institution whose deposits are fully insured to the amount of the deposit.

Article VII Special Funds

Section 1. There shall be created a Camp Permanent Fund, which will be known as the "Grand Army of the Republic Memorial Endowment Fund."

Section 2. In addition to funds raised by the Camp Patriotic Instructor, a Camp tax shall be levied against all income to the Camp, with the exception of funds collected to pay the per-capita tax and assessments due the Department and National Organization or monies raised or donated for a special purpose or project, and added to the Camp Permanent Fund. This levy will be two (2) percent.

Section 3. The principle of the Camp Permanent Fund shall remain intact but may be subject to Camp disposition by giving notice of such intent to the Camp Officers and Past Camp Commanders in good standing. Said notice must be given at least thirty (30) days prior to the meeting where it shall be voted on by Camp membership. Three-fourths (3/4) vote of the members present and voting shall be required to expend any portion of the said principle.

Section 4. Additional special funds may be established upon approval of the Camp Council and two-thirds (2/3) vote of the members present and voting.

Article VIII Committees

Section 1. The Camp Commander may appoint such committees as are designated in the National Constitution and Regulations and whose duties and responsibilities are fully explained therein. He may also appoint such committees as needed to conduct the business of the Camp, provided, however, no committee shall be permitted without prior approval of the Camp to incur any expenses in the name of the Camp.

Section 2. The Committee Chairman shall be responsible to report in writing to the Camp Commander, as directed by the Commander as to content and frequency.

Section 3. The term of appointment for each committee shall be the same as the appointing Camp Commander, unless otherwise specified.

Article IX Bonding

Section 1. The Camp Secretary and Camp Treasurer, or Camp Secretary-Treasurer, shall be bonded in amount determined by the Camp Council.

Section 2. Additional Officers of the Camp may be bonded if the need is determined by the Camp Council.

Article X Budget

Section 1. The Camp Council shall prepare and present at the last regular meeting prior to the end of the fiscal year a budget of the amounts required to conduct the affairs of the Camp.

Section 2. The budget shall include an appropriation to conduct the business of the Camp of which the Camp Secretary shall receive an amount to cover postage and necessary stationary or forms for the conduct of Camp business.

Section 3. The budget shall be voted on by the members present and voting and require a simple majority vote for adoption

Article XI Camp Elections and Installation

Section 1. The election of Officers of the Camp shall be held at the last Camp meeting between the first week of October and the last week in December. Installation shall be at the same meeting unless otherwise designated by a vote of those present. The Installing Officer, who shall be a member in good standing in the Order and, unless appointed by the Department Commander, shall be named by the Camp Commander-Elect.

Article XII Associates

Section 1. In accordance with Article VII of the National Constitution and Regulations and Article XIII of the Department By-laws, provision is hereby made for Associates in the Camp. Said Associates, in addition to being governed by the aforementioned articles, shall be permitted to serve in any elected office and/or as Memorial Day Committee Chairman, and are entitled to all other privileges of membership including the right to vote.

Section 2. The number of Associates in the Camp may not exceed one-third (1/3) of the Camp membership at the time of acceptance into the Order.

Article XIII Juniors

Section 1. The Camp may admit Juniors to membership.

Section 2. Juniors shall be male descendants who are at least eight (8) years of age but less than fourteen (14) years of age who meet the qualifications stipulated in Article III of the National Constitution and Regulations and Section 5 of the Articles of Incorporation.

Section 3. Juniors may not hold any elected office in the Camp.

Section 4. Juniors shall be governed by Article X of the National Constitution and Regulations. They shall not have voting rights within the Camp.

Section 5. Juniors attending meetings or activities of the Camp must be accompanied and supervised by an adult who is a Member or Associate of the Sons of Union Veterans of the Civil War or its Auxiliary.

Article XIV
Additions, Alterations, Suspensions of By-laws and Amendments

Section 1. These By-laws may be altered and/or amended by a two-thirds (2/3) vote of the members present and voting, provided at least twenty-five (25) days notice of any proposed addition, alteration and/or amendment shall be sent to each member of the Camp. The notice may be a part of the Camp Commander's Orders, Camp Newsletter or electronic communication.

Section 2. These By-laws or a section thereof may be suspended for a single meeting to expedite the Camp's business if approved by a two-thirds (2/3) vote of the members present and voting, provided the suspension is not in conflict with the National Constitution and Regulations or Department By-laws.

Section 3. The assembled members present and voting at a regularly scheduled Camp meeting may give the Camp Secretary permission to change National Constitution and Regulations article and section numbers included in the Camp By-laws to conform to newly numbered articles and sections without prior notice being sent to the membership. A simple majority of votes is necessary to approve the change.

Section 4. The assembled members present and voting at a regularly scheduled Camp meeting may give the Camp Secretary permission to change Department By-law article and section numbers included in the Camp By-laws to conform to newly numbered articles and sections without prior notice being sent to the membership. A simple majority of votes is necessary to approve the change.

Section 5. These By-laws and/or any additions, alterations, and/or amendments, here in after adopted, shall be effective immediately after approval by the Department Commander.