



BY – LAWS
of
B/G Benjamin G. Humphreys
Camp # 1625
Indianola, Mississippi
Sons of Confederate Veterans

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BY-LAWS
of
BRIG. GENERAL BENJAMIN G. HUMPHREYS CAMP, #1625
SONS OF CONFEDERATE VETERANS

ARTICLE I: NAME

The name of the organization shall be the Brigadier-General Benjamin G. Humphreys Camp.

ARTICLE II: OBJECTIVE

To associate in one united, compact body of men of Confederate Ancestry, and to cultivate, perpetuate, and sanctify the ties of fraternity and friendship entailed thereby; to aid and encourage the history and achievement from Jamestown to this present era, constantly endeavoring to see that the events of the War Between the States and the heroic contributions of the Confederate Soldier, Sailor, Marine, and elected or appointed Government Officials of the Confederate States and its Territories are authentically and clearly written, and that all documents, relics, and mementoes produced and handed down by those active participants therein are properly treasured and preserved for prosperity; to aid and assist in the erection of suitable and enduring monuments and memorials to all Southern valor, civil and military, wherever done and wherever found; to instill in our descendants a devotion to and reverence for the principles represented by the Confederate States of America, to the honor, glory, and memory of our fathers who fought in that cause.

ARTICLE III: NATURE

The Brig.-General Benjamin G. Humphreys Camp, in furtherance of the Charge of Lt.-General Stephen D. Lee, **is a historical honor society and service organization dedicated to education and preservation and** shall be strictly patriotic, fraternal, benevolent, nonpolitical, non-racial, and nonsectarian. This Camp, Mississippi Division, and Sons of Confederate Veterans neither embraces, nor espouses acts or ideologies of racial and religious bigotry, and further, condemns the misuse of its symbols and flags in the conduct of same. This Camp will maintain its non-profit status in accordance with the Mississippi Division By-Laws and the National Sons of Confederate Veterans Constitution.

ARTICLE IV: MEMBERSHIP

Section 1. All male descendants, linear or collateral, at least twelve years of age, of those who served in the Confederate Army, Navy, or Marines to the end of the war, or who died in prison or while in actual service, or who were killed in battle, or who were honorable discharged, shall be eligible for membership and the rights and privileges thereof.

Section 2. No one shall be admitted for membership until satisfactory proof of the foregoing qualifications be submitted in duplicate on official blank applications prepared for that purpose, such applications bearing recommendation by a member in good standing of the Camp. The original shall be forwarded to General Headquarters, Sons of Confederate Veterans and a duplicate **sent to the Division Adjutant and** preserved by the Camp.

Section 3. The Commander shall review all applications for membership in the Camp, received by the Adjutant. The Commander may submit the applications to a confidential, three-man membership committee, appointed by him, to pass on the acceptability of the candidate for membership. Candidates refused membership may petition the Camp membership for admission, and upon receiving favorable, written approval of three-fourths of the membership, will be granted full membership in the Camp.

Section 4. All annual dues and filing fee must be submitted with a completed application to the Camp Adjutant.

Section 5. Membership in the Camp shall be active membership as herein set forth.

Section 6. Active membership in the Camp includes membership in the Mississippi Division and the General Organization of Sons of Confederate Veterans.

Section 7. Any member in good standing in the Camp, removing from the Camp, shall be entitled a certificate from the Camp Adjutant stating his membership and duration thereof.

Section 8. Applications for membership in the Camp must be read at a regular meeting of the Camp. Upon reading of the application, membership in the Camp will be extended only after receiving a two-thirds vote of acceptance by the membership present and formally inducted into the Camp.

Section 9. Any person who cannot prove his ancestry to a Confederate Veteran, but wants to honor our Confederate Heritage, may join the Camp as an Associate member by paying Camp dues and inducted into the camp formally. Such members will not have the privilege of voting on camp business. Any approval for such membership shall be in accordance with Article IV; Sections 3 and 4. Such member shall be subject to all provisions set forth in Articles IX, X, and XI herein set forth.

ARTICLE V: FINANCES

Section 1. The fiscal year of the Camp shall be from August 1 to July 31 of the following year.

Section 2. Each member shall be required to pay applicable Camp dues which include National and Division dues, as approved by the Camp. The National and Division dues collected shall be forwarded to their respective organizations prior to their delinquent dates by the Camp Adjutant.

Section 3. Camp dues which include National and Division dues shall be paid in full no later than October 31. Any member whose dues have not been received by International Headquarters by November 1 shall be considered delinquent and if said dues are not paid in full by November 1, the delinquent member shall automatically stand suspended and all Camp privileges revoked. Any suspended member paying dues after November 1, will be re-instated with a 2/3 affirmative vote from the Executive Committee as a member, in good standing, upon payment of the full Camp dues due, plus a late charge of 25% of the approved Camp dues and any applicable Division and/or National dues late charges. The Camp Adjutant shall not accept the delinquent dues unless said late charges are included.

Section 4. Camp dues shall be prorated for the fiscal year in the following manner: 1st and 2nd Quarter (Aug – Jan): \$ 10; 3rd Quarter (Feb – Apr): \$ 5 and 4th Quarter (May – Jul): \$ 2.50. A new member joining the Camp has the option to prorate his dues only if he elects to prorate his National and Division dues.

Section 5. Revenue of the Camp shall be derived from annual dues, fees, gifts, contributions, and from other sources approved by the Camp or the Executive Committee. **Revenue cannot be raised by means of raffle, bingo or any other method of games of chance.**

Section 6. The Camp shall be the administrator and custodian of the “Oliver and Jeffrey McCaskill Memorial Scholarship Fund” and the “B/G Charles Clark Chapter # 253, Military Order of the Stars and Bars Fund”. At no time shall it be construed that these funds are assets of the Camp.

ARTICLE VI: MEETINGS

Section 1. Annual Meeting. The annual meeting of the Camp shall be in December of each year on a date determined by the Executive Committee. If the annual meeting shall not be held at the time fixed it shall be held within a reasonable time thereafter, and the officers shall hold over until their successors have been elected and installed in January at an appointed date.

Section 2. Regular Meetings. The regular meeting of the Camp for transactions of ordinary business shall be held on a day of each month, at such time and place as may be fixed by the Executive Committee.

Section 3. A special meeting of the Camp may be held at any time upon call of the Commander. The Commander shall also call a special meeting upon demand in writing, stating the object of the proposed meeting, and signed by not less than twenty percent of the members entitled to vote. Notice of the time, place, and object of the proposed meeting shall be fixed by the Executive Committee.

Section 4. Quorum. One-fourth of the Camp membership, in good standing, constitutes a quorum at any meeting.

Section 5. The rules of procedure at any meeting of the Camp shall be set forth in Robert's Rule of Order, Revised, except wherein they may be altered by the Camp.

ARTICLE VII: OFFICERS AND THEIR DUTIES

Section 1. The elected officers of the Camp shall be Commander, First Lieutenant Commander, Second Lieutenant Commander, Adjutant / Treasurer, Color Sergeant/ Quartermaster. Upon election, the Commander may appoint to his staff a **Judge Advocate**, Camp Chaplain, Historian, Newsletter Editor, Webmaster, and Sergeant - at - Arms. All officers, except those of the Executive Committee and appointed staff officers shall be elected by a majority vote by ballot of the members in good standing present at the annual meeting of the Camp. They shall hold offices for two years or until their successors are elected. Officers elected at the annual meeting shall take office in January, following their election in December at the annual meeting. **Contact information for all elected and appointed Camp Officers shall be printed one time in the Camp Newsletter and posted on the Camp Website as soon as possible to include a minimum of email address and telephone number. Also include mailing address for the Camp Commander and Camp Adjutant and all other if space permits.**

Section 2. Commander. The Commander shall preside at all meetings of the Camp and of the Executive Committee. He shall be a member ex-officio of all regular and special committees, and shall perform all such other duties as usually pertaining to his office.

Section 3. First Lieutenant Commander. The First Lieutenant Commander shall perform the duties of the Commander in his absence or at his request. He shall serve as program chairman, securing guest speakers and presentations for Camp functions.

Section 4. Second Lieutenant Commander. The Second Lieutenant Commander shall perform the duties of Commander in the absence of the Commander and First Lieutenant Commander. He shall be responsible for the enlistment of new members. He shall maintain an adequate supply of SCV brochures and applications to accomplish recruitment of new members. He shall monitor membership as to dues payment and meeting attendance. He shall constantly strive for an active, growing membership.

Section 5. Adjutant / Treasurer. The Adjutant shall conduct all official correspondence pertaining to the proper preparation and forwarding of all reports required of the Camp to SCV Headquarters. He shall notify all members of special meetings. He shall keep a true record of all meetings of the Camp and have custody of the books and papers of the Camp. He shall be keeper of the Camp seal. All applications for membership, initiation fees, and first year dues shall be made to the Adjutant. He shall be responsible for the ordering of all items necessary for operation of the Camp. He shall maintain adequate stock of SCV membership pins, decals, and applications. He shall have charge of all funds of the Camp and place the same in such bank or banks as may be approved by the Executive Committee. All moneys shall only be withdrawn by check signed by the Adjutant or his designee. He shall keep an accurate account of all transactions and render a detailed report to the membership at any meeting when requested. He shall present a detailed report, in writing, of income and expenditures at the

annual meeting in February. Bills paid by the Adjutant shall have received approval of the Executive Committee. He shall be responsible for collection of dues and fees, taking proper note of the paying member, his address, and other information necessary in the maintenance of the Camp records. He shall prepare and distribute to the membership in good standing a roster of members, their addresses, and telephone numbers.

Section 6. Judge Advocate. The Judge Advocate shall be a licensed Attorney-at-Law and shall advise the officers and Executive Committee of all legal matters, including the construction and interpretation of the SCV General Constitution and Camp By-Laws. He shall serve as parliamentarian at both regular and special meetings. Upon direction of the Commander, he shall conduct investigations into charges or challenges brought against Camp members. He shall perform such other duties as are usually incident to his office.

Section 7. Color Sergeant/Quartermaster. The Color Sergeant/ Quartermaster shall maintain and safeguard the Camp colors. He shall insure the proper display of colors at all functions of the Camp and will lead members in salutes to the colors. He shall appoint assistants to aid in the performance of his duties. He will be responsible for the procurement of meeting sites and arrangements incident to preparation for regular, special, or social meetings of the Camp, such sites and arrangements subject to approval of the Executive Committee. He shall be responsible for the operation of the Camp stores, maintaining adequate stocks and other items necessary for efficient operation. He shall account to the Commander as to expenditures. He shall maintain a cash fund up to \$50. Any funds in excess of \$50 shall be remitted to the Treasurer.

Section 8. Chaplain. The Chaplain provides spiritual guidance for the Camp. He shall represent in times of bereavement. He will periodically report to the Commander of the well being of members confined by illness. In event of member death, he will immediately notify the membership. He will be responsible for the procurement of flowers, wreaths, or such items incidental to the accomplishment of his duties with approval of the Executive Committee or Camp Commander.

Section 9. Historian. The Historian will keep and maintain a written record of the Camp and its accomplishments during his tenure of office. He will be responsible for the collection of photographs, newspaper clippings, and such items necessary to the proper recording of Camp history. All items will be affixed in a bound volume to insure preservation. He will assist the Camp Adjutant in keeping records of the minutes of the meetings and substitute for the Adjutant when he is not available.

Section 10. Newsletter Editor. The Commander shall, upon taking office, appoint an editor and such other staff as necessary in the preparation and distribution of the official Camp bulletin. The Commander shall periodically review operation of the bulletin to ascertain if operation is in the best interest of the Camp. The Executive Committee shall provide for acceptance of annual subscriptions from non-members and establish an annual subscription rate. The Editor will, at the end of each year, prepare a report on distribution and associated costs, which report shall be submitted to the Commander at the annual meeting in February.

Section 11. Webmaster. The Commander shall, upon taking office, appoint a Webmaster for the purpose of maintaining and updating the Camp's Website. The Webmaster, at his discretion, shall appoint assistants as needed to help maintain the Site. The Commander shall periodically review operation of the Site to ascertain if the Site is in the best interest of the Camp. Cost to maintain the Site on the Internet shall be paid by the Camp as approved by the Executive Committee. The password to the Site shall remain confidential at all times and only used by those authorized to access the Site.

Section 12. Resignations. Resignation of any officer may be accepted by majority vote of the remaining members of the Executive Committee.

Section 13. Vacancies. When an office is vacated as a result of death, resignation, or removal, the Commander will appoint a successor, upon approval of the Executive Committee, such successor to hold the office until the next Officer election.

ARTICLE VIII: THE EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE AND THEIR DUTIES

Section 1. The voting members of the Executive Committee shall be composed of the Commander, First Lieutenant Commander, Second Lieutenant Commander, Treasurer, Adjutant, Judge Advocate, the Color-Sgt / Quartermaster, and the two immediate past-commanders **who are not already a member of the Executive Committee.** No past commander shall be eligible who has failed to maintain good standings in the Camp.

Section 2. Meetings of the Executive Committee shall be held at any time and place as the Commander may determine. **The Commander shall chair the Committee but will not have a vote except to break a tie and he cannot make any motions. Robert's Rules of Order shall govern the Committee.** Three members of the Executive Committee may call meetings at any time on demand, in writing to the Commander.

Section 3. One-third of the members of the Executive Committee shall constitute a quorum.

Section 4. The Executive Committee Shall:

- A.** Approve or disapprove all bills presented to the Treasurer for payment
- B.** Sit in judgment in all disciplinary matters
- C.** Authorize and approve all meeting sites and arrangements
- D.** Rule on all questions affecting the election eligibility and conduct of members
- E.** When in the interest of the Camp, transact business in behalf of the membership

Section 5. The Executive Committee shall be responsible for the Creation and administration of a program of awards presented to Camp members and non-members deemed worthy of recognition.

Section 6. The Executive Committee shall review and authorize the presentation of certificates and awards, except Commander's Commendations and Resolutions of Respect which are reserved to the Commander.

ARTICLE IX: CAMP PENALTIES

Section 1. Any member may be suspended, expelled, reprimanded, or censured (loss of privileges to vote and/or floor recognition during Camp business sessions) for such cause being deemed sufficient by the entire membership of the Executive Committee by a two-thirds affirmative vote of the members of the Committee at any regular or special meeting.

Cause for disciplinary action shall be:

- A.** Any act or conduct determined to be inconsistent with the purposes or policy and Constitution of the Sons of Confederate Veterans.
- B.** Refusal to pay dues or other assessments when due.
- C.** For conviction of any crime, other than that of a misdemeanor against any State or against the United States.

Section 2. Any elected officer of the Camp may be suspended for the following reasons: failure to perform a duty imposed upon him by these by-laws, the Constitution of the Sons of Confederate Veterans or by any lawful order of the Camp Commander.

Section 3. If a member is censured, suspended, or expelled, the Camp Adjutant shall notify, within 10 days, in writing the 1st Brigade Commander, Division Adjutant, and Division Commander.

Section 4. Should a censured, suspended, or expelled Member fail to adhere to the penalty imposed by the Camp and/or Camp Executive Committee, the Camp Commander may ask the Mississippi Division for assistance or pursue legal remedies through the court.

ARTICLE X: RULES OF PROCEDURE TO ASSURE DUE PROCESS IN DISCIPLINARY HEARINGS

Section 1. Any officer may be removed by a two-thirds vote of the members in good standing present at any special meeting called for that purpose. No vote on removal can be made unless at least thirty days' notice in writing shall have been given to the officer of the reasons for his removal and of the time and place of the special meeting at which such ballot on his removal is to be taken. The Executive Committee, upon majority vote, may suspend the officer pending outcome of this special meeting. At such meetings, the officer shall be given a full hearing.

Section 2. Any member in good standing may prefer charges against any officer or member. Such charges shall be in writing stating facts relied upon and accompanied by all affidavits or exhibits which are to be used in their support. Such charges shall be filed with the Adjutant, who will immediately notify the Commander.

Section 3. The Camp, officer or member complained of shall be given thirty days to respond to any charges and/or correct the cause for such charges to the satisfaction of the Commander. If the cause for the complaint is corrected, the Commander shall dismiss the complaint.

Section 4. If the officer or member fails to correct the cause of the complaint the Commander shall give notice to the officer or member by certified mail (return receipt requested) that they shall be suspended unless they file notice in writing within fifteen days and by certified mail (return receipt requested) requesting a hearing on the charges. Upon request of a hearing, the Commander will call a meeting of the Executive Committee to investigate such charges. The Adjutant shall give at least thirty days notice of the hearing to each member of the Executive Committee, the accuser, and to the accused. Such notice shall be in writing and will include a true copy of the charges and of the supporting affidavits and exhibits.

Section 5. Any member suspended, expelled, reprimanded, or censured by the Executive Committee may appeal to the full membership of the Camp. Such appeal shall be made in writing to the Adjutant, who will notify the Commander. The Commander will call for a special meeting of the Camp for acting on the appeal. The Adjutant shall give at least thirty days notice in writing to all members of the Camp in good standing stating the date, time, place, and reason for such special meeting. At the meeting of the full Camp, the Adjutant will read the original charges, the supporting affidavits, and will read or display the accompanying exhibits and will read the minutes of the special meetings of the Executive Committee at which the charges were heard and action taken. A full hearing will be given the accuser and the accused. A vote will be taken by ballot of the members in good standing present and a two-thirds vote shall be required to reverse the action of the Executive Committee. If the Camp Member's censure, suspension, or expulsion is upheld by the Camp Membership, the member may, within 30 days, notify the Division Commander in writing of his intent to appeal the decision of the Camp.

Section 6. Any Camp member expelled by the Camp is ineligible for membership in any other Camp of the Confederation and the Camp Adjutant shall notify in writing the Mississippi Division Adjutant and the Adjutant-in-Chief of the General Executive Council of the expelled members status. The Executive Committee shall determine the duration of suspension, but in no event shall it be for less than one year. During the event of suspension, the officer or member shall not be eligible to hold any office and/or not be entitled to any privileges of the Camp.

Section 7. A member censured, suspended, or expelled by the Mississippi Division shall be notified in writing by the Camp Commander within 10 days of the charges and confirmation of the penalty imposed.

Section 8. Any member who has been suspended, expelled, reprimanded, or censured by the Camp or Mississippi Division, and having exhausted all foregoing appeal procedures, has the right to appeal to the General Executive Council, Sons of Confederate Veterans, the decision of which shall be final.

ARTICLE XI: PROHIBITION

Section 1. No political action and endorsing of aspirants for political office shall be permitted.

Section 2. No assessment shall be levied upon Camp members other than normal dues and initiation fees, except by resolution of the general membership.

Section 3. Proxy voting shall not be permitted in the conduct of Camp elections or business.

ARTICLE XII: OFFICIAL LADIES

The Camp commander may appoint official ladies, or ladies of honor, to represent the Camp. They are to be appointed at the Lee/Jackson Banquet of each year and are to serve in that capacity for a term of 12 months.

ARTICLE XIII: OFFICIAL OBSERVANCES

Section 1. The Camp shall religiously observe the celebration of Confederate Memorial Day.

Section 2. The Camp will, as a token of appreciation to friends and family, annually host the Lee/Jackson Dinner during the month of January on a date selected by the Camp.

ARTICLE XIV: CAMP COMMUNICATIONS

Section 1. The title of the Camp bulletin shall be **THE DELTA GENERAL**:

- A.** The editor shall be appointed by the Commander and to serve at the pleasure of the Commander.
- B.** All matters concerning the timeliness of publication and editorial content shall be at the discretion of the Commander and Editor.
- C.** Contents may be edited without notice.
- D.** All printing and mailing shall be at the expense of the Camp.
- E.** All Camp members in good standing are entitled to a copy of the bulletin to be mailed as a hard copy through the postal service or electronically if the member so desires

Section 2. The Executive Committee may authorize additional publications as may be deemed beneficial to the Camp.

Section 3. The Camp mailing list, shall not, under any circumstances, be provided to anyone without written approval from the Executive Committee.

Section 4. At the discretion of the Executive Committee, the Camp will maintain a Camp website to keep the Camp members and general public informed of Camp events and dissemination of material pertinent to the truth of the War for Southern Independence. A Webmaster shall be appointed by the Commander and serve at his pleasure. The Webmaster and Commander shall have final approval on any material placed on the website. The Webmaster shall have the authority to appoint assistants to help maintain the site. At **no time** shall the username / password be given to anyone not authorized to make changes on the website. The Webmaster shall report to the adjutant the expense for maintaining the website for inclusion in the Camp's Annual Budget and said expense approved by the Executive Committee.

ARTICLE XV: CAMP COLOR GUARD UNIT

Company D., Confederate States Marine Corp Unit, Mississippi River Detachment, shall be the color guard unit of the Brig.-General Benjamin G. Humphreys Camp. Such unit shall perform at ceremonies requested by the Camp and conduct itself in a manner that is consistent with national, state, and camp by-laws in a way to bring honor to the Sons of Confederate Veterans, the Brig.-General Benjamin G. Humphreys Camp, and themselves. The unit reserves the right to govern itself from within the unit in regards as to what events it will attend, uniform requirements, and leadership positions in the unit.

ARTICLE XVI: AUXILIARIES

The Brig.-General Benjamin G. Humphreys Camp recognizes as Auxiliaries of the Sons of Confederate Veterans; The Order of the Confederate Rose Society and the Military Order of the Stars and Bars.

ARTICLE XVII: AMENDMENTS

Any member of the Camp at any regular Camp meeting may introduce any proposed amendment to these by-laws or special meeting called for that purpose. A vote may be taken upon the proposed amendment provided a copy of the intended amendment has been sent to each Camp member in good standing, by United States Mail, at least ten days prior to the meeting. A two-thirds vote of the members present, by ballot, will be necessary to pass or reject.

ARTICLE XVIII: CAMP DISSOLUTION

If in the event the Camp Executive Committee moves to dissolve the Camp, each Camp member in good standing shall be notified in writing by U. S. Mail and provided a written ballot to vote for or against dissolution of the Camp within 30 days of the date of the letter. There shall be a Grace Period of fifteen (15) days past the deadline to cast votes to allow for the slow mail delivery. All ballots shall be mailed to the Camp Adjutant and shall remain sealed until time to count the ballots in the presence of the Camp Executive Committee. Ballots post marked after the deadline date will not be counted. The vote shall be verified and each member of the Executive Committee present shall sign a statement thereof.

If seven (7) or more nay votes are recorded, the motion to dissolve the Camp fails to pass. If less than seven (7) nay votes are recorded, the motion to dissolve the Camp passes and the following actions shall be taken:

1. The Camp Commander shall notify the Mississippi Division Commander immediately by phone and send a written statement to the MS Division Commander and Adjutant,
2. All Camp Members in good standing shall be notified by U. S. Mail that the Camp Stands dissolved,
3. All Camp records, files and awards shall become property of the Mississippi Division and will be transferred to the Division per their instruction,
4. After paying all liabilities, the remaining Camp Assets, both monetary and physical, shall be donated to Beauvoir,
5. All bank accounts shall be closed and non-Camp funds returned to their respective parties.

Amended and adopted this 17th day of December 2009, by the members of Brigadier-General Benjamin G. Humphreys Camp #1625.

Dan A. McCaskill, Camp Commander

Charles Stillman, 1st Lieut. Commander