

McCORMICK AREA



VETERANS ASSOCIATION

Revised to include Revision 1 Dated May 17th, 2022 and Revision 2 Dated July 20th, 2023

Constitution and By-Laws of McCormick Area Veterans Association (MAVA)

Preamble

For all Veterans of McCormick Area, South Carolina, County and States, we associate ourselves 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 America; To promote fellowship among the service Veterans of our Community. To bolster and support those who defend the United States against all enemies, both foreign and domestic; To support the principles of justice and mutual support for all Veterans who have served our Country Honorably. To perpetuate the memory of deceased members and to comfort their survivors, the members of this organization shall keep ready a welcome sign to those associate members and survivors.

Article I – Name

Section 1. The name of this organization is derived from the local area, comprising of all and any neighboring Counties or States of McCormick, South Carolina. We will be known hereafter as the McCormick Area Veterans Association (MAVA). The Association will be considered as a Fraternal Style type of Organization.

Article II – Object and Purpose

Section 1. The object and purpose of this Association shall be to promote the Principals and Policies as set forth in the Preamble stated above. The Purpose of this Association shall be limited to revenue code 501 © 3 – Veterans Organizations.

Article III – Nature

Section 1. This is a civilian organization; Military Rank does not exist. A former E1, shall have the same standing as any other Member; the consideration of any rank or title may be used with respect to that individual.

Article IV – Membership

Section 1. Eligibility for membership shall be any Military Veteran who has or is serving “Honorably” as a current member of the Army, Navy, Marine Corps, Air Force, Space Force, Coast Guard, National Guard, Reserve Components or as a Merchant Marie. Evidence of Honorable discharge will be required. A DD-214 or SC License bearing a Veteran insignia requested at time of initiation into MAVA. will be requested at time of initiation into MAVA/. Spouses and Widows/Widowers of any Veteran, who served as listed in this section, are eligible to become Associate Members.

Article IV – Membership (continued)

Section 2. Associate Members will have all rights and privileges except those involving voting on budgetary items and election of Officers. A special membership category titled, Honorary, shall be added and open for nomination at any regular MAVA meeting, by any member, for any individual(s) with or without prior military service, who provide voluntary service to disabled veterans who may be home bound or who reside in a Veterans Nursing Home. These nominee's will have proved support for our Veterans on a regular basis. Honorary Members will not have voting rights.

Current Membership Annual dues are \$25.00. Associate Member Annual dues will be 50% of Member dues. Honorary members will not be assessed annual dues.

Section 3. At least 75% of this organization's membership must consist of SLV residents so that MAVA can be sanctioned by SLV-POA, to have all rights and privileges assigned as such. As long as 75% is maintained Executive Committee members can reside outside of SLV.

Section 4. Any member of this group may be expelled or suspended for cause: Where the member has disgraced the United States of America Where the member has disgraced the Association as a group. Charges must be in writing, under oath, from a member in good standing, and affirmed by a majority vote of those Executive Officers present at a scheduled Executive meeting being held. The duration of a suspension is to be delineated in a "motion for suspension" and shall become part of the approved Minutes of the executive meeting.

Article V – Officers

Section 1. The Administrative/Executive Offices of this Organization shall consist of the following:

(1) Chairman, who shall be the designated person in charge of all aspects of an upcoming meeting; (2) First Vice Chairman, who shall have been a Past Chairman (if available) or a person named in his place to give assistance and counsel to the Chairman; (3) A Secretary, who shall be responsible for maintaining a membership roster, Minutes of meetings, and maintain historical information of this association as it develops; (4) A Treasurer, who shall be responsible for maintaining our financial records plus ensure we comply with all applicable financial rules and guidelines, as well as maintain our 501 © 3, 990 and EIN approvals; (5) A Judge Advocate who shall maintain and update the Association Constitution and By-Laws, conduct its Executive and Regular meetings following "Roberts Rules of Order"; (6) A Webmaster, who shall create and maintain the association Website, Internet format, and work with SLV Officers in providing our information to SLV residents, as well as McCormick County at large capabilities. (7) An Executive Committee, made up of at least three members, to assist the Executive Officers above in carrying out their duties and be used as resources future activities.

Article V – Officers (continued)

Section 2. The position of Chaplain is to conduct opening and closing prayers at each meeting. This position or to be considered as a non-voting member of the Executive Officer's Committee and can be appointed by the chairman or elected by the full membership on an annual basis.

Section 3. No one- member shall hold more than one Executive Office at any time. However, a member would be permitted to hold an additional position in sub-committees or appointed a position by the Chairman. Since there is no compensation paid to the Officers, nor any other benefit derived from their position, other than satisfaction, there is no limit to how many times a member can hold an Executive Office in the organization. The Executive Officers for the Association will be elected and approved by a majority vote of the members present at our February Monthly regular meeting with announcement and discussion on or before our January Monthly Executive and regular meetings.

Section 4. A recall of an Executive Officer may be required for dereliction of duties and parameters outlined in Article IV, section 4 above. As such, the need to remove and replace will be held at a regular scheduled meeting and approved by a majority of those members present. The replacement or interim Executive Officer will fill the position until the next duly authorized election is to be held.

Section 5. At each Executive meeting, the Officers attending will bring all Motions passed before the regular members and will require a majority vote of those present before it is considered approved. The agenda for the next meeting will be set and approved.

Section 6. To conduct an Executive Meeting, a quorum consisting of at least five (5) of the eight (8) Executive Committee members must be present.

Article VI Finances (“this Article may expand as the Association Develops)

Section 1. At a duly appointed regular meeting, the Chairman of the meeting and/or the Treasurer will give a financial report to the members present. The Financing of any upcoming Association activity will be discussed and voted on, giving direction to the Chairman and/or Treasurer for the approved expenditures.

Section 2. Current Membership Annual dues are \$25.00. Associate member dues will be 50% of Member dues. Honorary members will not be assessed Annual dues.

Section 3. The Treasurer will maintain the membership roster and ensure the Secretary has an updated copy. The roster will include the members anniversary date and advise those members of their pending renewal fees and dates.

Section 4. As the Association grows, the need to file EIN, 990 and 501 © 3 Tax forms will be the responsibility of the elected Treasurer at that time.

Article VI – Finances (continued)

Section 5. The Treasurer will be responsible for creating and maintaining the Association's Annual budget and bringing it up for membership approval on an annual basis.

Article VII – Dissolution

Section 1. It is herein provided, that for any cause should this organization end or be dissolved, all remaining assets, including monies, shall be distributed as follows: The dissolving Board of Directors will donate all assets, including monies, to the nearest Veteran Organization for the benefit of all Veterans.

Article VIII – Amendments

Section 1. This constitution, or any part thereof, may be amended by a majority vote of the present members at a duly authorized and posted meeting. Said Meetings shall be posted at least 30 days prior to the membership voting on any financial and/or election of Officers being held.

Section 2. Between regular meetings, an amendment requested by any member may be submitted, in writing and via e-mail, or by United States Postal service, and sent to all members listed on the current personnel roster. Responses must be postmarked no later than thirty (30) days after the date of the request. A space must be provided on the request for amendment for a "YEA" or "NAY" vote. Responses must be sent to the current Chairman for review and count. Whether approved or not, the requested amendment will be brought up at the next properly scheduled meeting. *