

**YOSEMITE CHAPTER**  
**SONS OF THE AMERICAN REVOLUTION**

**BYLAWS**

**ARTICLE I**  
**Chapter**

The Yosemite Chapter is a subordinate organization of the California Society of the Sons of the American Revolution (SAR) which in turn is a subordinate organization of the National Society of the Sons of the American Revolution. As such, they are all non-profit tax-exempt organizations under Internal Revenue Code Section 501(c)(3) because they are included in a group ruling issued to the National Society of the Sons of the American Revolution, located in Louisville, Kentucky. Contributions to the organizations are tax deductible and are qualified to receive tax deductible bequests, devises, transfers or gifts under section 2055, 2106, or 2522 of the Internal Revenue Code.

**ARTICLE II**  
**Membership**

- a) Members of Yosemite Chapter are direct lineal descendants of patriots who participated in establishing American independence, as determined by the California and National Societies of SAR.
- b) Membership in the Chapter shall continue as long as all annual dues, National, State, and local are paid in full. A waiver may be granted by the Chapter and or State Society.
- c) The privileges of holding office and voting shall belong to all Chapter members in good standing. Each member shall be entitled to one vote, which must be exercised in person by the member or for approved reasons may be exercised by phone, web conferencing, or written note. There shall be no voting by proxy.
- d) Application for membership may be made to any officer of the chapter and all required questionnaires or other shall be completed. Members may reside in any geographical locality. A request for transfer to or from the Chapter shall be made in writing to the chapter.
- e) Membership shall be subject to acceptance by the California Society and thereafter by the National Society.

**JUNIOR MEMBERSHIP**

- a) Junior Membership in the SAR is available for male youths under the age of 18 subject to acceptance by the California Society and thereafter by the National Society.
- b) A Junior Member does not pay Chapter or California Society fees but does pay the dues charged for Junior Members by the National Society.
- c) When the Junior Member reaches the age of 18, he is automatically recognized as a Regular Member and will be paying dues to the Chapter, State Society, and National

Society, as a Regular Member effective the following year.

- d) A Junior Member may not hold office but may serve on Chapter committees.
- e) A Junior Member does not have voting privileges.
- f) Junior Members are encouraged to attend Chapter events with the Yosemite Chapter Color Guard.

#### DUAL MEMBERSHIP

- a) Members of other SAR Chapters or State Societies may join the Yosemite Chapter as a Dual Member.
- b) A Dual Member must be recommended by a member of the Yosemite Chapter.
- c) A Dual Member does not hold office but may serve on Chapter committees.
- d) A Dual Member must pay the current Yosemite Chapter dues and if primary membership is in another State Society, the Dual Member must pay California State Society dues.
- e) A Dual Member does not have voting privileges.
- f) A Dual Member will receive an electronic copy of the communications when published.
- g) A Dual Member is encouraged to bring their wives and/or other guests to all Chapter programs and Chapter Color Guard events.

#### ASSOCIATE MEMBER

- a) People that are interested in joining our Chapter but not meeting the above requirements may join the Yosemite Chapter as an Associate.
- b) A potential Associate must be recommended by a member of the Yosemite Chapter and found to be worthy toward SAR ideals.
- c) An Associate shall not pay dues, however Yosemite Chapter may collect the actual cost of printing and mailing a chapter or State newsletter.
- d) An Associate does not have voting privileges.
- e) An Associate will receive an electronic copy of the communications when published.
- f) Associates are encouraged to bring their wives and/or other guests to Chapter meetings. They are encouraged to participate in all Chapter programs and Chapter Color Guard events.

### **ARTICLE III Officers**

- a) The officers of the Chapter shall be a President, Executive Vice President, and Vice President(s) having the duties of Secretary, Treasurer, Registrar and such other officers as the Chapter may wish to determine, such as a Vice President for Meetings, and/or Vice President for Chapter Programs. The officers shall be elected from the Chapter

membership and shall serve for a minimum of one year, from January 1, to December 31, and may be re-elected for additional years as determined by the Chapter.

- b) The President shall preside over all meetings of the membership. He shall recommend activities, which may be undertaken by the Chapter during his term of office.
- c) The Executive Vice President shall function in the absence of the President, or upon the President's inability to act, and shall perform such duties as may be specifically assigned to him. A prerequisite for holding this office is a clear understanding and commitment that the Executive Vice President will serve the Chapter as its next President when the current President leaves office.
- d) A Vice President - Meetings shall be responsible for arranging the meeting place, meeting programs, and obtaining guest speakers. If there is no Vice President for Meetings, the Chapter President or Executive Vice President shall coordinate with the Meeting Program Committee to fulfill those duties.
- e) A Vice President - Chapter Programs shall oversee all of the various chapter programs. They may include, but are not limited to the : Eagle Scout Program, Knight Essay Contest, Law Enforcement Program, Flag Certificate Program, Americanism Poster and Brochure Program, Valley Forge Program, and JROTC/ROTC program. If there is no Vice President for Chapter Programs, the Chapter President will chair the Youth Programs Committee and oversee and coordinate with the various Youth Program Committee chairmen assigned to those programs.
- f) The Vice President - Secretary shall keep and maintain a complete record of the proceedings of the Executive Committee and of the Chapter meetings. He shall prepare such papers, records, instruments and reports as may be required for the Chapter, State or National Societies, and such other duties that may be prescribed by the Chapter or Executive Committee.
- g) The Vice President - Treasurer shall receive all dues, and safely keep all funds of the Chapter, and shall deposit all funds in such bank or banks, which may be selected by the Executive Committee. He shall keep accurate records of all financial transactions by the Chapter, and may be bonded at the discretion of the Executive Committee.
- h) The Vice President - Registrar shall review and approve the preparation of and submittal to the California Society SAR applications by candidates for membership in SAR.
- i) The Genealogist will aid the Registrar in research and preparation of applications.
- j) The Chaplain may be appointed and asked by the President to offer an Invocation or Benediction in connection with any regular or special meeting of the membership. He may be an ordained clergyman or may be a layman if he is a Chapter member. A visiting clergyman may be asked to function as Chaplain. The Chapter Chaplain may be assigned such other duties by the President as will improve the spiritual well-being of the Chapter members, including, but not limited to visiting the sick and shut-ins.
- k) The Vice President - Communications shall be Editor of the Newsletter and responsible for notifying the membership of meetings, items of major interest including payment of dues, and news items, through the publication of the Yosemite Chapter's newsletter.
- l) The Guardian of the Flags shall be responsible for the safekeeping of the Chapter's United States and SAR flags and have them available for use at Chapter meetings.

- m) The Sergeant at Arms shall be responsible for the safekeeping of the Chapter's collection of historic flags and other paraphernalia, and have them available for use at Chapter meetings and/or events as needed.
- n) The Webmaster shall be responsible for maintaining the Chapter's website. This includes, but is not limited to, negotiating hosting services and agreements, managing our domain name, resolving technical problems, updating the chapter information, and posting the current newsletter to the Website.

#### **ARTICLE IV Executive Committee**

- a) An Executive Committee (ExComm) shall be vested with the powers of the Chapter when it is not in session. The Executive Committee shall be composed of the Chapter President, Executive Vice President, Vice Presidents - Secretary, -Treasurer, and - Registrar and any other elected officers or appointees as needed.
- b) The immediate Past President shall be an Ex-Officio Member.
- c) The Executive Committee may appoint a Chaplain, Historian, Genealogist, Assistant Registrar, Editor of the newsletter, Guardian of the Flags, Sergeant at Arms, Webmaster, and such other officers as they deem necessary.
- d) Fifty percent (50%), with a minimum of three (3), of the then sitting members of the Executive Committee shall constitute a quorum for the transaction of business.
- e) The Executive Committee shall meet upon the call of the President. Committee members shall be given at least a one-week notice before the date of any meeting.
- f) A Special Meeting may also be called by any officer in writing, and it shall take place, if agreed upon by at least three officers, on no less than seven (7) days notice. Such call shall be filed with the Secretary.

#### **ARTICLE V Chapter Meetings**

- a) The Chapter shall meet monthly, at a time, day, and place to be arranged by the Executive Committee.
- b) At all meetings of the membership, seven (7) members shall constitute a quorum.
- c) Upon call by a member, Chapter business shall be conducted under Robert's Rules of Order.
- d) Special meetings of the Chapter may be called at any time by the President, or in response to the written request of ten (10) members, and with written notice of time and place mailed to all members in good standing at least fourteen (14) days prior to such special meeting. The meeting shall be called for one specified purpose.
- e) The Chapter shall hold its annual meeting for the election of officers and for the transaction of other business at the November meeting each year.
- f) The installation of the incoming officers shall be made at the following December meeting.
- g) Advance notice of the time and place of the annual meeting shall be given by mail to all members in good standing at least seven (7) days prior to the meeting.

- h) At any and all meetings, a full record of proceedings shall be maintained by the Chapter Secretary; or, if he is absent or unable to function, then by a temporary Secretary appointed by the Chapter President or by the Presiding Officer at the meeting.

## **ARTICLE VI Committees**

- a) The Executive Committee is identified in these Bylaws in Article IV.
- b) Other Committees shall be general or special.
- c) The General Committees are: Calling, Membership, Finance, and Program (if needed).
- d) Special Committees may be appointed at any time by the President who shall define their purpose and their objectives.
- e) Special Committees may be appointed from representatives of allied organizations to assist in the work and proceedings of the Chapter.
- f) The Membership Committee shall be concerned with all phases of increase and retention of membership of the Chapter.
- g) The Calling Committee shall be concerned with all phases of outreach to encourage members to attend meetings.
- h) The Finance Committee shall plan for the financial undertakings of the Chapter and shall consider the ratio of income to expenditures in all activities.
- i) The Meeting Program Committee shall plan for the program of all Membership meetings in the matter of entertainment and education.
- j) Non-members, in the discretion of the Committee, may be invited to address the meetings.
- k) The Youth Programs Committee shall be composed of the chairman for each of the youth programs and the committee will be responsible for general oversight of all of the youth contests and programs.
- l) At least two auditors shall be appointed annually to constitute an Auditing Committee to certify, after review, the accuracy of the accounts in all particulars. The Auditors may at any time discuss any phase of its duties with the Treasurer.

## **ARTICLE VII Miscellaneous**

- a) The Chapter President shall represent the Chapter at the annual and midwinter meetings, at the board of Managers of the California Society, SAR.
- b) The Vice-President is the alternate to attend the State Meetings, either to attend with the President, or in the event that he cannot be present, as Acting President of the Chapter. If the Chapter President cannot attend a meeting he will provide a written letter of delegation to the California State Society Secretary notifying him of who can vote in his place as a member of the Board of Managers.
- c) No officer or member shall officially represent or obligate the Yosemite Chapter, SAR, either

financially or otherwise, without advance approval of the Executive Committee of the Chapter.

- d) The calendar year of the Chapter shall be January 1 to December 31 of the same year.
- e) Annual dues are due and payable to the Chapter Treasurer on November 1 and are delinquent after December 10.
- f) The amount of the dues shall be established by the Executive Committee.
- g) An active member of the Chapter may resign his membership or any office held by him, either orally or by written notice mailed to the Secretary of the Chapter. It shall become effective upon acceptance of the Executive Committee.
- i) A former member of the Chapter may be reinstated to membership upon his application to the Chapter and upon his payment of such dues and fees as are required at the time by the Chapter, State Society, and National Society.
- j) The Chapter shall file a written report of the election of officers by January 1 of each year with the Secretary of the State Society.
- k) The Chapter may, by a two thirds (2/3) vote of the members present at a meeting attended by a quorum of its voting membership, for cause and after impartial hearing, declare a vacancy in any office, and fill such vacancy for the remainder of the term of such office; provided, however, that in the case of vacancy in the office of President, the Executive Vice-President shall be designated to fill such vacancy.
- l) In the event of an officer's inability to perform the duties of his office, the Executive Committee may determine the probable length of such inability and appoint a member to fill the office during the incumbent's inability, except that in the case of the President, the Executive Vice-President shall temporarily fill the office of President.

**ARTICLE VIII**  
**Amendments**

- a) These Bylaws may be amended by the Membership by a minimum two-thirds (2/3) vote of the members present at a meeting attended by a quorum of its voting membership, provided that a copy of any proposed change, or amendment or rescission shall be posted on our website in advance to all members at least thirty (30) days before the meeting at which the proposal is to be considered.
- b) Any such changes to these Bylaws shall be patterned after the Bylaws of the California Society, SAR, and not in conflict with the Articles of Incorporation and Bylaws of the state society as provided in Article V, Section 5 of the California Society by-laws.

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**NOW THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED** that the on December 12, 2020, the Yosemite Chapter of the California Society of the SAR met, considered, and voted to adopt the above-revised chapter bylaws.

**THE FOREGOING**, was passed and adopted at said scheduled meeting by a minimum two-thirds (2/3) of a quorum of the voting membership of said Yosemite Chapter this 12th day of December, 2020.

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John Hendon, President, Yosemite Chapter of the  
California Society of the Sons of the American Revolution

**ATTEST:**

ROY SMITH  
Vice President – Secretary, Yosemite Chapter of the  
California Society of the Sons of the American Revolution

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Roy Smith

These By BYLAWS revised this 25<sup>th</sup> Day of February, 2022 only as to Article II, Membership, Associate Member, Section c), page 2, removing the requirement that an Associate Member must pay current Yosemite Chapter fees, and adding the following:

“An Associate shall not pay dues, however Yosemite Chapter may collect the actual cost of printing and mailing a chapter or State newsletter.”

All other terms of these BYLAWS remain unchanged as of the 12<sup>th</sup> day of December, 2020.

This change was passed and adopted at two scheduled meetings by a minimum two-thirds (2/3) of a quorum of the voting membership of said Yosemite Chapter on November 27, 2021 and January 29, 2022.

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Randy Dhindsa, President, Yosemite Chapter of the  
California Society of the Sons of the American Revolution

**ATTEST:**

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John S. Hendon Secretary, Yosemite Chapter of the  
California Society of the Sons of the American Revolution

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