

TEXAS SOCIETY - SONS OF THE AMERICAN REVOLUTION, INC.
COLOR GUARD COMMITTEE - BYLAWS (RULES & GUIDELINES)

WHEREAS, the President of the Texas Society of the Sons of the American Revolution, hereinafter called “the Society,” considered that there should be better interaction and communication between members of the Color Guard of the chapters of the Society to have a more effective organization;

AND WHEREAS, every organization must have rules to guide and direct it in conducting its business;

THEREFORE, the Texas Society Color Guard Committee, hereinafter called “the Committee”, organized as a standing committee of the Society, hereby adopts these Rules and Guidelines to direct it in the conduct of its business and affairs.

ARTICLE I - MISSION

The mission of the Committee shall be to promote and participate in patriotic, historical, and educational events and activities, in the State of Texas or other locations as requested, while wearing U. S. Revolutionary War period clothing and to convey a commitment to excellence when presenting the colors and the Flag of the United States in a respectful military manner at all Texas State Society SAR meetings and in our communities as visual spokespersons of the Texas Society.

ARTICLE II – MEMBERSHIP

The Color Guard is open to all Texas Society members in good standing, desiring to participate in national, state or chapter level Color Guard activities. All Color Guardsmen are encouraged to attend committee meetings and to participate in committee proceedings. The voting members of the committee shall comprise the Command Staff and members as appointed by the State President (as listed on the Texas SAR Website). To assist the State President, the Committee Chairman may recommend potential Committee Members to ensure regional representation.

ARTICLE III – MEETINGS

The Committee shall meet at each Texas SAR Annual Meeting and Board of Managers meeting. The order of business at each meeting shall be: (1) to organize the Color Guard for the various events that it must participate in during that particular meeting; (2) to determine the Awards of the Texas SAR Color Guard and promulgate the requirements of those awards; (3) designation of Chapter and State Color Guard Events and to petition for National Color Guard Event Status, as needed; (4) Other items of business to include reporting on events the various Chapter Color Guards have participated in since the previous meeting, as well as discussing upcoming events around the state.

A quorum shall exist if at least ten (10) voting members are present at the meeting. Other special meetings of the Committee may be called by the Chairman in the manner prescribed in the Society Constitution and Bylaws. Special Meetings require a true majority of all voting members to take action. All actions of the Committee shall be conducted as prescribed in the Society Constitution and Bylaws.

ARTICLE IV – COMMAND STAFF

The Command Staff of the Color Guard Committee shall consist of the Texas SAR Color Guard Commander, Committee Chairman, Texas SAR Adjutant, and two regional commanders (North and South) plus their adjutants. They shall serve for a period of one year following the annual State Convention at which they assumed command.

Election of Command Staff

Candidates for Command Staff shall be elected from a slate of candidates prepared by the Texas SAR Adjutant and voted on by Committee members present at the Annual State Convention by a simple majority vote of the eligible voting members (See Article II - Membership). The Elected members of the Command Staff are: Color Guard Commander, Northern Commander, and Southern Commander. Nominations from the floor will be accepted. The approved slate must be approved by the In-coming Texas SAR State President.

Color Guard Committee Chairman

The Chairman of the Committee shall be appointed by the State President of the Texas Society, who may, in his discretion, appoint the Commander of the Color Guard as the Chairman. If the president appoints a person other than the commander of the Color Guard as the Chairman of the Committee, the Commander of the Color Guard shall be a voting member of the Committee and shall serve as *ex officio* Vice-Chairman of the Color Guard Committee.

Texas SAR Commander

The Texas SAR Color Guard Commander shall be the head of the Texas SAR Color Guard and may also be the Chairman of the Texas SAR Color Guard Committee. He shall appoint the Texas SAR Adjutant. The standard term of service of the Texas SAR Color Guard Commander shall be one year.

Texas SAR Adjutant

The Adjutant shall serve as the Vice Chairman of the Texas SAR Color Guard Committee, except when the Color Guard Commander has been appointed to serve in that role. The Texas SAR Adjutant shall record the minutes of all Texas SAR Color Guard Committee meetings. He shall maintain the State Color Guard Roster and a Roster of all Color Guard members present at Texas SAR Color Guard functions and is responsible to make sure that the National Flags are present at the opening session of each BOM, banquets and other functions that may be required by the Color Guard Commander and the Texas SAR State President. The standard term of service of the Texas SAR Color Guard Adjutant shall be one year.

Regional Commanders

In addition to the Texas SAR Adjutant, the Texas SAR Commander shall be assisted by a Northern Commander and a Southern Commander, from chapters in the North and South regions respectively. Each of these regional commanders shall be current Color Guard members, nominated from their region and elected as noted in "Election of Command Staff" above.

Each regional commander, at their discretion, shall appoint a regional adjutant to support their regional activities and events. The regional adjutant shall be for a one-year term and shall not be part of the officer succession plan unless they are elected into a higher role at a Committee meeting or appointed to fill in a higher position vacated by an elected officer.

Command Staff Succession

When the Texas SAR Color Guard Commander completes his term, the Texas SAR Adjutant will present the next rotation regional Commander as the nominee for Texas SAR Commander. By practice, this position will rotate between Northern and Southern Command.

This officer succession plan shall only be applicable to those individuals elected by the committee. Each regional adjutant shall not be part of this Command Staff Succession Plan. At the discretion of the Committee, these regional adjutants can be elected to the regional commander position when that position becomes available. Likewise, the Color Guard Committee Chairman shall not be part of this Command Staff Succession Plan (unless he is also one of the other elected officers in the line).

Incomplete Terms

Should a member be unable to complete his term of service due to illness, death, resignation, removal, or other cause, the Chairman has the authority to appoint an interim replacement. That member will serve until the next scheduled meeting, or a special meeting, at which an election will be held.

A Member that fails to perform his duties may be removed by the State President at any time and without recourse. The President may replace the member or allow the Committee Chairman to appoint an interim replacement.

ARTICLE V – EQUIPMENT AND MATERIALS

The Texas SAR Color Guard may accept donations of materials for the proper functioning of the Color Guard, including, but not limited to flags and flag holders, muskets, rifles, side arms and clothing. Such items shall be held by the Texas SAR Color Guard in the name of and on behalf of the State Society.

This in no way shall impinge on any Guardsman's ownership of his own uniform or accoutrements – swords, weapons, cartridge belts or boxes, drums, fifes, etc. Such personal items shall belong to the owner, unless they are specifically donated to the Texas SAR Color Guard. For items that are donated to the Texas SAR Color Guard, such items shall be held by a Color Guardsman as appointed by the Color Guard Committee Chairman and listed in the "Texas SAR Color Guard Inventory". Such items should be maintained by an optionally appointed designee - the Texas SAR "Quartermaster". This shall only apply to items donated at the State level and not the local chapter level.

ARTICLE VI – INSIGNIA

Committee officers and members are entitled to wear any of the various medals of the Society as prescribed by pertinent regulations of the NSSAR.

ARTICLE VII – FEES AND DUES

There are no fees or dues attendant to membership on the Committee.

ARTICLE VIII – AMENDMENTS

These Rules and Guidelines may be amended at any regular business meeting of the Committee by a three-fifths (60%) vote of the eligible voting members present, provided that a

quorum exists and further provided that the said amendment was proposed at the preceding regular meeting.