CONSTITUTION OF VERDE VALLEY POST NO. 25
OF THE AMERICAN LEGION DEPARTMENT OF ARIZONA
Revision 2 - December 16, 2024

PREAMBLE

For God and Country, we associate ourselves together 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 a one hundred per cent Americanism;
To preserve the memories and incidents of our associations in all wars;
To inculcate a sense of individual obligation to the community, state and nation;
To combat the autocracy of both the classes and the masses;
To make right the master of might;
To promote peace and good will on earth;
To safeguard and transmit to Posterity the principles of justice, freedom and democracy;
To consecrate and sanctify our comradeship by our devotion to mutual helpfulness.

ARTICLE I - NAME

Section 1. The name of this organization shall be, Verde Valley Post No. 25, the American Legion Department of Arizona, hereafter referred to as the 'Post'.

Section 2. The Post is chartered in the American Legion Department of Arizona, hereafter referred to as the 'Department'.

ARTICLE II - OBJECTIVES

Section 1. The objective and purpose of this Post shall be to promote the principles and policies as set forth in the foregoing preamble and the National and Department of Arizona Constitutions of the The American Legion.

ARTICLE III - NATURE

Section 1. This Post is a civilian organization and membership therein does not affect or increase liability for military or police service.

Section 2. This organization shall be absolutely non-political and shall not be used for the dissemination of partisan principles nor for the promotion of the candidacy of any person seeking public office or preferment.

Section 3. Rank does not exist in The American Legion; no member shall be addressed by his/her military or naval title in any meeting of this Post.

ARTICLE IV - MEMBERSHIP

Section 1. Eligibility for membership in this Post shall be as prescribed by the National Constitution of The American Legion.

Section 2. Application for new membership shall be made in writing under such regulations as may from time to time be prescribed by the Post Executive Committee.

Section 3. All applications for new membership shall be acted upon after receiving a DD-214, military ID card, or equivalent documentation of veteran status.

Section 4. Members may be suspended or expelled from membership in The American Legion upon proper showing of cause by a three-fourths vote of the membership of the Post present and voting. Charges shall be based upon disloyalty, neglect of duty, dishonesty, or conduct unbecoming a member of The American Legion. All charges must be made under oath, in writing, by the accusers, and no member in good standing shall be suspended or expelled from membership until given a fair trial by the Post. Any member who has been suspended or expelled pursuant to this section and the procedure provided by the local Post, shall have the right to appeal such suspension or expulsion to the Department Executive Committee. The decision of the Department Executive Committee shall be final.

ARTICLE V – POST OFFICERS

Section 1. The administrative affairs of this Post of The American Legion shall, except as may be otherwise provided by the Post Bylaws, be under the supervision of an Executive Committee which shall consist of no more than five (5) members in addition to the officers of the Post. The term of office of members of the Executive Committee shall be for one year. This Post, by its Bylaws, may provide for such other standing committees as the business of the organization may require.

Section 2. The officers of this Post shall be a Commander, First Vice Commander, Second Vice Commander, Adjutant, Finance Officer, Service Officer, Judge Advocate, Historian, Chaplain, Sergeant-at-arms, three (3) at-large Executive Committeepersons, Webmaster, Newsletter Editor, and such other officers as deemed necessary by this Post.

Section 3. The nine (9) elective officers of this Post shall be a Commander, First Vice Commander, Second Vice Commander, Adjutant, Finance Officer, Sergeant-at-arms, and three (3) at-large Executive Committeepersons.

Section 4. The following six (6) officers shall be appointed by the Post Commander: Veterans Service Officer, Judge Advocate, Historian, Chaplain, Webmaster, and Newsletter Editor.

Section 5. The American Legion is a volunteer organization, which means that Post Officers serve without pay. However, the Post 25 Finance Officer duties and responsibilities are time consuming, and on occasion, it has been difficult to get a volunteer. If that should occur, then the Executive Committee is authorized to seek a member who would accept the position for compensation. The stated amount of compensation (regardless of hours worked) shall be approved by the Membership at a General Meeting.

ARTICLE V – POST OFFICERS (Continued)

Section 6. Annual Post elections shall be held at a regular meeting not more than sixty (60) days nor less than fifteen (15) days prior to the Department Convention, and said Post Officers shall be installed prior to that Convention. All Post Officer vacancies shall be filled in a manner to be determined by the Post Bylaws and shall hold office for the unexpired term.

Section 7. Every member of this Post in good standing shall be eligible to serve on the Executive Committee.

Section 8. The duties of Officers and the Executive Committeepersons shall be those usually pertaining to such Officers or Committeepersons and as further provided in the Post Bylaws.

ARTICLE VI – FINANCE

Section 1. The revenue of this Post shall be derived from membership dues, kitchen, bar, gambling activities, event hall rental, and such other sources as may be approved by the Post Executive Committee.

Section 2. The amount of annual Post membership dues shall be the National Organization dues and may include any additional amount approved by 2/3 of the Post membership voting at a General Meeting.

Section 3. The Post shall pay to the Department and National the annual membership dues for every member of this Post.

Section 4. The Finance Officer, Commander, Bar Manager, and all other members handling funds for the Post shall be bonded for a minimum of $25,000 each**.**

ARTICLE VII – POST EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE

Section 1. The Post Executive Committee, hereafter referred to as the E-Committee, shall be comprised nine (9) members; the Commander, First Vice Commander, Second Vice Commander, three (3) Executive Committeepersons, Adjutant, Finance Officer, and Sergeant-at-arms.

Section 2. The Executive Committee shall act on matters referred to it by Post membership at regular Post meetings, matters of urgency occurring between regular meetings, and emergent issues and mandates from the Department and National headquarters.

Section 3. The quorum for an Executive Committee meeting shall be five (5) members of the Executive Committee, at least one of whom shall be an Executive Committeeperson.

Section 4. If a member of the E-Committee is absent from three (3) consecutive meetings, then a vacancy shall exist unless excused by the Commander.

ARTICLE VIII – AMERICAN LEGION AUXILIARIES

Section 1. This Post recognizes an auxiliary organization known as the Auxiliary Unit of Post 25, American Legion, Department of Arizona. Membership in the Auxiliary Unit shall be as prescribed by the National Constitution of the American Legion Auxiliary.

Section 2. This Post recognizes an auxiliary organization known as the Sons of the American Legion Squadron of Post 25, American Legion, Department of Arizona, hereafter referred to as S.A.L. Membership in S.A.L. shall be as prescribed by the National Constitution of the Sons of the American Legion.

Section 3. This Post recognizes an auxiliary organization known as the American Legion Riders Chapter 25, American Legion, Department of Arizona, hereafter referred to as Riders. Membership in the Riders shall be as prescribed by the American Legion Riders, Department of Arizona.

ARTICLE IX – AMENDMENTS

Section 1. This Constitution is adopted subject to the provisions of the Constitution of the National organization, and the Department of Arizona. Any amendment to the National Constitution or Department of Arizona Constitution which is in conflict with any provisions hereof shall be regarded as automatically repealing or modifying the provisions of this Post Constitution to the extent of such conflict. The Post shall review the National Constitution following the close of the National Convention and update this Constitution accordingly within 90 days.

Section 2. The amendment shall be submitted in writing and read at a regular meeting. After the first reading all Post members shall be notified at least one (1) week prior to the next regular meeting when such amendment is to be read again and voted upon. After the second reading of the proposed amendments, it may be adopted by a vote of two-thirds (2/3) of the members in attendance.

AMERICAN LEGION POST 25
THE AMERICAN LEGION
DEPARTMENT OF ARIZONA

AMENDMENT TO THE CONSTITUTION

The Constitution for American Legion Post 25 has been completely revised to incorporate changes to the National Constitution and to improve functioning of the Post.

We hereby certify that the amendment to the Constitution was read at two meetings and adopted with a quorum being present by a two-thirds vote.

First reading: October 21, 2024

Second reading and adoption: December 16, 2024

Submitted By: _____ Date 12-16-24
Debra Dexter, Chairperson,

Approved By: _____ Date DEC 16 2024
James Galczynski, Adjutant

Approved By: _____ Date 12-16-24
Bill Tinnin, Commander

Transmitted to the Judge Advocate, Department of Arizona, Jaclyn Kulfan, jag@azlegion.org

on Date DEC 16 2024 By: _____
James Galczynski, Adjutant

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