

C O N S T I T U T I O N  
of the  
Oklahoma Society of  
THE SONS OF THE AMERICAN REVOLUTION

**ARTICLE 1**

Name

SECTION 1: The name of this Society shall be: THE OKLAHOMA SOCIETY OF THE SONS OF THE AMERICAN REVOLUTION.

**ARTICLE II**

Objects

SECTION 1: The objects of this Society are declared to be patriotic, historical, and educational and shall include those intended or designed to perpetuate the memory of those patriots who by their services or sacrifices during the War of the American Revolution, achieved the Independence of the American People; to unite and promote fellowship among their descendants; to inspire them and the community at large with a more profound reverence for the principles of the government founded by our forefathers; to encourage historical research in relation to the American Revolution; to acquire and preserve the records of the individual services of the patriots of the war, as well as documents, relics, and landmarks; to celebrate the anniversaries of the prominent events of the war and of the revolutionary period; to foster true patriotism; to maintain and extend the institutions of American freedom, and to carry out the purposes expressed in the preamble of the Constitution of our country and the injunctions of Washington in his farewell address to the American people.

**ARTICLE III**

Membership

SECTION 1: Eligibility: Any man shall be eligible for regular or junior membership in this Society who is a citizen of good repute in the community, and is the lineal descendant of an ancestor who at the time of his last known service demonstrated loyalty to, and rendered active service in the cause of American Independence, either as an officer, soldier, seaman, marine, militiaman, or minuteman, in the armed forces of the Continental Congress, or of any of the several Colonies or States; or as a signer of the Declaration of Independence, as a member of a Committee of Safety or Correspondence; or as a member of any Continental, Provincial, or Colonial Congress or Legislature; or as a recognized patriot who performed actual service by

overt acts of resistance to the authority of Great Britain; PROVIDED, HOWEVER, that no person advocating the overthrow of the Government of the United States by use of force or violence shall be eligible for membership in the Society.

SECTION 2: Active Members: Active members of the Society are those members whose dues are paid up to date or those whose dues are not delinquent for a period in excess of three calendar months. Active members shall have all rights and privileges of membership.

SECTION 3: Inactive Members: Any member who shall become delinquent for a period in excess of three calendar months, in the payment of his annual dues shall be transferred from active membership to inactive membership status. Such inactive members shall retain the right to be restored to active membership, at any time, by the payment of one year's current dues, National, Oklahoma, and Chapter.

Any member who is delinquent in the payment of his dues shall not be entitled to any privilege of membership of this Society or any Chapter. If any member is holding an office or is a member of a committee at the time he becomes delinquent in the payment of his dues, he shall automatically be dropped from such office or committee.

SECTION 4: Membership Applications: All applications for membership must be made on the form authorized by the National Society. The completed official form plus one two-sided photo copy, shall be signed by the applicant, endorsed by two members in good standing acting as sponsor and co-sponsor, and forwarded to the State Society complete with supporting documentation and applicable admission fees. The original application shall be approved and signed by the State Registrar and State Secretary, and sent to the National Society. The Local Chapter may require a copy of the application for its files, which should also be a two-sided photo copy of the original.

SECTION 5: Fees and Dues: Membership fees and annual dues payable to the State Society shall be fixed by the Bylaws of the Society.

SECTION 6: Transfers: Transfer of a member from this Society to another State Society of the Sons of the American Revolution, or a transfer from another State Society to the Oklahoma Society may be effected in the manner prescribed by the National Society of the Sons of the American Revolution.

SECTION 7: Suspension or Expulsion: Any member may be suspended or expelled from the Society by a two-thirds vote of the Board of Managers for conduct unpatriotic or contrary to the objectives and purposes of the Society, or for conduct unbecoming a member or gentleman; PROVIDED that (a) written charges specifying the misconduct be preferred against such member by a Resolution of the Board of Managers; (b) a copy of such charges be served on the member charged, either personally or by mail; and (c) full opportunity for a hearing before the Board of Managers be given the member charged after, at least, two weeks' notice of the time and place of the hearing.

## **ARTICLE IV**

### **Officers**

SECTION 1: Officers: The officers of this Society shall be a President; a First Vice-President, a Second Vice-President; a Secretary-Treasurer; a Registrar; an Historian; a Chaplain; and a Chancellor. Such officers shall be elected by a majority vote, biennially, at the Annual Meeting of the Society. Each of such officers shall serve for a term of two years, commencing with the first day of the month following the Annual Meeting at which he is elected and extending until his successor is qualified. The duties of such officers shall be as prescribed in the Bylaws. No one person may hold more than two offices enumerated.

## **ARTICLE V**

### **Delegates to the National Congress and National Trustee**

SECTION 1: Delegates to National Congress: A Delegate-at-Large and such other Delegates to each National Congress as are authorized under the Constitution and Bylaws of the National Society shall be appointed by the President of this Society.

SECTION 2: National Trustee: A Trustee of the National Society shall be nominated by majority vote at each Annual Meeting.

## **ARTICLE VI**

### **Meeting of the Society**

SECTION 1: Annual Meetings: A meeting of the active members of the Society, for the transaction of business, shall be held annually. The place, date and hour of the Annual meeting shall be fixed by vote at a prior Annual Meeting or the Board of Managers if an emergency arises.

SECTION 2: Special Meetings: Special meeting of the Society may be called by the President and shall be called by him when directed to do so by the Board of Managers or whenever requested, in writing, by ten or more active members. The place, date and hour any such special meeting shall be fixed by the President.

## **ARTICLE VII**

### **Board of Managers**

SECTION 1: Composition: There shall be a Board of Managers which shall consist of the President, Secretary-Treasurer, the Presidents of each of the various Chapters of the Society and the Oklahoma National Trustee. The President of the State Society shall be the chairman thereof.

SECTION 2: Duties and Authority: It shall be the duty of the Board of Managers to conduct the affairs of the Society, subject to any directions which may be given to it by a majority vote of the members attending and any Annual or Special Meeting of the Society. The Board of Managers shall have the responsibility of caring for the funds of the Society and the right to authorize the expenditure thereof in the conduct of the Society's affairs. The Board of Managers shall have authority to fix compensation of any of the Society officer or employees.

SECTION 3: Vacancies: The Board of Managers shall have the power to fill any vacancy occurring among the officers of the Society, and to nominate a member to fill any vacancy existing in the office of Trustee of the National Society representing the Oklahoma Society.

## **ARTICLE VIII**

### Chapters

SECTION 1: Application for Charter: Five Members of the Society who are identified with a City, County or Territorial Region of the State, may apply by written request to the Board of Managers, through the Secretary-Treasurer, asking authority to associate as a Chapter of this Society. The Board of Managers may grant such request, but the Board may at its discretion, deny or withhold the Charter until ten members are qualified.

SECTION 2: Chapter Name: Each Chapter shall be known as (here insert Chapter name) Chapter of the Oklahoma Society of the Sons of the American Revolution.

SECTION 3: Chapter Officers: Each Chapter shall have a President, Vice-President, Secretary and Treasurer; and such other officers as the Bylaws of the Chapter may provide.

SECTION 4: Chapter Members: No person shall be admitted into a Chapter as a member until after his admission into the State Society in the manner provided by the Constitution and By-Laws of the Society in the manner provided by the Constitution and Bylaws of the Society and until he has paid the required annual dues and fees. Any member suspended or expelled, or in any manner losing his membership in the State Society shall thereupon cease to be a member of the Chapter.

SECTION 5: Fees, Dues, and Funds: Each Chapter may fix the amount of fees and dues payable to such Chapter by the members thereof and shall have control of all Chapter funds. Fees and dues payable to the National and State Societies may be collected by the Chapter and remitted to the Secretary-Treasurer of the State Society unless this duty is assumed by the State Society.

SECTION 6: Chapter Bylaws: Each Chapter may draw Bylaws, rules and regulations for its government, provided they do not conflict with the Constitution and Bylaws of the Society or with the Charter, Constitution and Bylaws of the National Society.

## **ARTICLE IX**

### By-Laws

SECTION 1: Such Bylaws as are deemed desirable may be adopted and thereafter revised or repealed, by a majority vote of the membership attending any Annual or Special Meeting of the State Society provided that no Bylaw shall conflict with this Constitution or with the Charter, Constitution or Bylaws of the National Society.

## **ARTICLE X**

### Amendments

SECTION 1: This Constitution may be amended, revised, or repealed by a majority of the members present at any meeting of the Society, provided any proposed amendment, revision, or repeal be first considered by the Board of Managers and the recommendation of such Board obtained with respect thereto; and provided further, that whenever this Constitution is to be amended, revised, or repealed, notice thereof, specifying said proposed changes in full, shall be sent to the President and Secretary of each Chapter at least twenty (20) days before action is to be taken by the Society.

## **ARTICLE XII**

### Repealing Clause

SECTION 1: Any and all constitutional provisions and Bylaws of the Society heretofore in force and effect shall be, and the same are hereby repealed; provided that all officers heretofore elected or selected, whose terms of office have not expired at the time this Constitution is adopted shall continue to occupy the respective offices to which they have been elected until the respective terms for which they were elected shall expire or until their respective successors shall have been duly qualified and provided further that the status and privileges of any member of the Society who has heretofore qualified as a Life Member shall not be affected by the adoption of the Constitution.

ADOPTED by the 73rd Annual Congress held in Tulsa, Oklahoma April 8, 1978

AMENDED: Article VI, Section 1: Annual Meetings amended at the 86th Annual Congress in Tulsa, Oklahoma, April 20, 1991.

AMENDED: Article III, Section 4: Membership Application amended at the 90th Annual Congress in Tulsa, Oklahoma, April 22, 1995.

AMENDED: Article III, Section 1: Membership; Article III, Section 3: Inactive Members, amended at the 113th Annual Conference in Bartlesville, Oklahoma, April 14, 2018.

APPROVED BY MEMBERS AT 113th ANNUAL STATE CONFERENCE APRIL 14, 2018

