



# CONSTITUTION

## The Missouri Society of the Sons of the American Revolution

Incorporated  
as a  
Missouri Not-for-Profit Corporation  
on March 15, 1982  
(Charter Number N-00027827)

Adopted April 28, 1990  
Amended January 30, 2021

J. Howard Fisk, President

Walter E. (Gene) Henry, Chairman  
Constitution & By-Laws Committee

# CONSTITUTION

## The Missouri Society of the Sons of the American Revolution

The Constitution was Approved and Adopted by The Missouri Society of the Sons of the American Revolution at their annual meeting on April 28, 1990, held at Columbia, Missouri.

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**CONSTITUTION**  
**OF**  
**THE MISSOURI SOCIETY OF THE**  
**SONS OF THE AMERICAN REVOLUTION**

**ARTICLE ONE – Organization**

The Missouri Society of the Sons of the American Revolution is a Missouri Not-for-Profit Corporation duly created March 15, 1982, pursuant to the statutes of the State of Missouri, and lawfully existing as a subordinate organization of the National Society of the Sons of the American Revolution. Articles of Incorporation were filed to incorporate a State Society existing since April 23, 1889, and recognized by the Missouri Secretary of State as a Benevolent Corporation March 10, 1891. It was created by authority of the National Society of the Sons of the American Revolution which was instituted July 4, 1876, incorporated by the Congress of the United States of America, June 9, 1906. The Organization shall not have a Corporate Seal.

**ARTICLE TWO – Purposes**

To carry on and conduct educational, patriotic, historical, and civic activities as set forth in the Charter, Constitution and By-laws of the National Society of the Sons of the American Revolution, and all other legal powers permitted General Not-for-Profit Corporations;

To perpetuate the memory of the men 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 education about and promote historical research in relation to the American Revolution;

To acquire and preserve the records of the individual services of the patriots of the American Revolution, as well as documents, relics and landmarks;

To mark the scenes of the American Revolution by appropriate memorials;

To maintain and extend the institution of American Freedom and; To carry out the purposes expressed in the Preamble to the Constitution of the United States of America and the injunctions of President George Washington in his farewell address to the American people.

To engage in all actions and purposes as may be further set forth in the Bylaws of the Corporation.

### **ARTICLE THREE – Membership**

Membership in this Society shall be open to any male who, being the age of eighteen (18) years or over, and a citizen of good repute in the community, is a lineal descendant of an ancestor who was at all times unfailing in his loyalty to and rendered actual 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 one of the several Colonies or States; or as a signer of the Declaration of Independence, or 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 that upon due investigation he shall be found to be acceptable and be admitted to and maintain membership in The National Society of the Sons of the American Revolution, he may be admitted to membership in this Society.

### **ARTICLE FOUR – Officers and Board of Directors**

The Officers of this Society shall be a President, Vice-Presidents, one of whom shall be designated as Executive Vice-President, a Secretary, a Treasurer, a Registrar, a Genealogist, a Chancellor, a Chaplain, a Surgeon, a Historian, a Sergeant-at-Arms, and a Trustee to the National Society and his alternate. Former Presidents of this Society, who are members in good standing of the Society, shall be designated as Honorary Vice Presidents. Former Presidents General of the National Society, Sons of the American Revolution, who are members in good standing of the Missouri Society, shall also be designated as Honorary Vice Presidents.

The foregoing officers, including honorary officers, and the Presidents of all Chapters shall constitute the members of the Board of Directors.

At any meeting of the Board of Directors at which a quorum is present, the Board may appoint additional Honorary Officers or Regular Officers as officers and members of the Board, with the approval of three- fourths vote of members present.

## **ARTICLE FIVE – Subordinate and Local Organizations**

Fifteen or more members of this Society, resident in any locality approved by the Board of Directors, may form themselves into a Chapter, to be called by such name as said members may assume. A lesser number of members may petition the Board of Directors for an exemption to this fifteen-member requirement. A Charter may be granted to such Chapter by the Board of Directors, upon application in writing of fifteen or more members of the Society, stating the name to be assumed, the location, and names of its proposed members. Such Chapter may enact a Constitution and Bylaws not inconsistent with those of the National Society, or of this Society. No person shall be admitted to such Chapter unless he is a member in good standing of the Missouri Society of the Sons of the American Revolution. If any member of such Chapter should cease to be a member of the Missouri Society, his membership in the Chapter shall also cease.

The Board of Directors may recall or revoke the Charter of any Chapter which fails to comply with the requirements fixed in accordance with this Article, or fails to meet for the space of one year. The money and property of a Chapter which disbands or whose Charter is recalled, or revoked, shall be delivered forthwith to this Society. In the event such Chapter shall be reinstated, reorganized or otherwise become active prior to the fifth anniversary of the date upon which such Chapter became inactive, then all funds and property held on account of such Chapter, shall be transferred to such reinstated or reorganized Chapter; otherwise the monies and property shall revert permanently to the Missouri Society of the Sons of the American Revolution. The local Chapter shall be a subordinate organization of this Corporation.

## **ARTICLE SIX – Quorum**

A quorum of the Society for the transaction of business shall consist of twenty-five (25) members of the Society whose dues are current as reported by the Treasurer. A quorum of the Board of Directors shall consist of eleven members, but a lesser number may adjourn.

## **ARTICLE SEVEN – Insignias**

The insignias of this Society shall be the same as the insignias of the National Society of the Sons of the American Revolution and shall be worn in accordance with the rules and regulations of said National Society as set forth in their Official Handbook.

## **ARTICLE EIGHT – Dissolution**

In the event the Missouri Society of the Sons of the American Revolution shall be inactive, for any reason, then all assets held in the name thereof, whether in the General Fund, the Patriots Trust Fund, Life Membership Fund, or any other fund or trust fund held in the name of the Society, shall be transferred to the National Society of the Sons of the American Revolution. Provided, however, to the extent any funds so transferred shall be subject to restrictions on the day preceding the transfer, and to the extent applicable such funds shall be transferred subject to such restrictions. Should it be determined that the foregoing provision is unauthorized by law, then in said event, the provisions for dissolution set forth in the Bylaws of the Corporation shall be followed, and in accordance with applicable Missouri statutory provisions and Regulations of the Internal Revenue Service.

## **ARTICLE NINE – Amendments**

The Constitution or By-laws of the Society may be altered or amended only by a two-thirds, or more, vote of the members present and voting at any meeting of the Society where a quorum is present; provided that at least thirty (30) days notice of such proposed amendment shall have been provided to all members by the State Secretary. The By-laws of the Society may be altered or amended only by a two-thirds, or more, vote at any meeting of the Board of Directors where a quorum is present; provided that at least thirty (30) days notice of such proposed amendment shall have been provided to the Board of Directors by the State Secretary.

## **End of the Articles of the Constitution**

APPROVED AND ADOPTED by the Missouri Society of the Sons of the American Revolution at their annual meeting on April 28, 1990, held at Columbia, Missouri.

LAST AMENDED by the members and Directors of the Missouri Society of the Sons of the American Revolution at their quarterly meeting on January 30, 2021.