

**Gen. W. S. Rosecrans Camp No. 2
Department of California and Pacific
Sons of Union Veterans of the Civil War**

CAMP BYLAWS

PREAMBLE

We, the descendants of Soldiers, Sailors, or Marines who served in the Army, Navy, Marine Corps, or Revenue Cutter Service of the United States of America during the War of the Rebellion of 1861 to 1865, have formed this patriotic and fraternal Order, for the purpose and objects in this Constitution set forth; and in so doing pledge ourselves to commemorate our fathers' deeds; to render loyal service to our Country, and to promote the maintenance of unqualified American citizenship with respect for and honor to the flag.

ARTICLE I

Name and Authority

The name of this organization shall be **Gen. W. S. Rosecrans Camp No. 2**, (hereinafter "the Camp"), **Department of California and Pacific, Sons of Union Veterans of the Civil War** (hereinafter "SUVCW") of Los Angeles, California, and shall exercise the power and authority and take the jurisdiction conferred upon it by its Charter and the Constitution and Regulations.

ARTICLE II

Purpose and Objectives

The purpose of this Camp shall be to perpetuate the memory of the Grand Army of the Republic and of the men who served the Union from 12 April 1861 to 9 April 1865; to assist in every practicable way in the preservation and making available for research of documents and records pertaining to the Grand Army of the Republic and its members; to cooperate in doing honor to all who have patriotically served our country in any war; to teach patriotism and the duties of citizenship, the true history of our country and the love and honor of our Flag; to oppose every tendency or movement that would weaken loyalty to, or make for the destruction or impairment of, our constitutional Union; and to inculcate and broadly sustain the American principles of representative government, of equal rights, and impartial justice for all.

ARTICLE III
Organization

The Gen. W. S. Rosecrans Camp No. 2 shall be constituted and remain constituted as provided by the Constitution and Regulations governing the National Organization, Sons of Union Veterans of the Civil War, and shall be known as the Gen. W. S. Rosecrans Camp No. 2, Department of California and Pacific, Sons of Union Veterans of the Civil War. The Camp is organized as an unincorporated association under the laws of the State of California. The organization is organized exclusively for charitable, religious, educational, and scientific purposes under section 501(c)3 of the Internal Revenue Code, or corresponding section of any future tax code.

ARTICLE IV
Activities Not In Furtherance of Exempt Purpose

No part of the net earnings, if any, of this unincorporated association, shall inure to the benefit of, or be distributable to its members, trustees, officers or other private persons, except that the unincorporated association shall be authorized and empowered to pay reasonable compensation for services rendered and to make payments and distributions in furtherance of the purposes described in section 501(c)3. No substantial part of the activities of the unincorporated association shall be the carrying on of propaganda, or otherwise attempting to influence legislation, and the unincorporated association shall not participate in, or intervene in (including the publishing or distribution of statements) any political campaign on behalf of or in opposition to any candidate for public office. Notwithstanding any other provision of these Bylaws, the unincorporated association shall not carry on any other activities not permitted to be carried on (a) by an unincorporated association exempt from federal income tax under section 501(c)3 of the Internal Revenue Code, or the corresponding section of any future federal tax code, or (b) by an unincorporated association, contributions to which are deductible under section 170(c)2 of the Internal Revenue Code, or the corresponding section of any future federal tax code.

ARTICLE V
Protection of Juniors and Junior Associates

It is the intention of this Camp to properly safeguard the youth within our Order. To that extent:

(a) All Junior and Junior Associates shall be accompanied by a parent or person designated as a guardian (i.e., an adult who is 18 years of age or older) when participating in any SUVCW/SVR activity.

(b) Unless a designated guardian, at no time will a non-relative SUVCW/SVR Brother be permitted one-on-one contact with a Junior or Junior Associate. Any non-relative interaction with a Junior or Junior Associate must include, at all times, at least two SUVCW/ASUVCW Brothers/Sisters who are 18 years of age or older.

(c) Any SUVCW Brother who witnesses or, in good faith, suspects any type of physical, mental or sexual abuse of any Junior or Junior Associate, shall immediately report such suspicion to local law enforcement first, and to the Camp Commander immediately thereafter. The Camp Commander shall notify Camp elected officers.

(d) Although not mandatory, it is highly suggested that every SUVCW Brother who is 18 years of age or older, who may have contact with a Junior or Junior Associate, should complete training related to protecting children from abuse of any type.

(e) All SUVCW Brothers must comply with all applicable Local, State and Federal laws pertaining to child abuse.

ARTICLE VI

Membership Dues and Fees

Section 1. ANNUAL DUES. Each Brother of the Camp shall be assessed annual dues. Effective January 1, 2020, the amount of said dues shall be a minimum of Forty-Five Dollars (\$45.00) for Members and Associates per annum; and, effective January 1, 2021, said dues shall be a minimum of Fifty Dollars (\$50.00). Junior Members and Junior Associates are not subject to Annual Dues until their fourteenth (14th) birthday. Brothers serving in the Armed Forces of the United States, while stationed outside of the District of Columbia or any State, territory, or possession of the United States, shall be exempt from annual Camp per capita dues. (As amended, September 14, 2019.)

Section 2. ANNUAL DUES; AMOUNT. Notwithstanding the provisions of this Article, the Camp may, by majority vote, increase or decrease the annual dues assessment. Any change in dues shall be disseminated by the Camp Commander in the form of Camp Orders not less than three months prior to any change. Any change in dues shall not become effective until the January following the date upon which the change was agreed to. When two-thirds (2/3) of the Camp Brothers voting determine that a change in the amount of dues is immediately in order, and essential for the continued operation of the Camp, the Camp shall declare the urgency to make such change, and the reasons therefore, to be included in the Camp Minutes. Such change in dues shall become effective immediately, upon the concurrence of two-thirds (2/3) of those voting, unless the Camp, at the same time, establishes another date which is prior to January following the date upon which the change was agreed to. The Camp Commander shall issue Camp Orders following the change in dues.

Section 3. DUE DATE. Annual dues are required and payable by January 1st of each year. Brothers who have not paid their dues by this date are in arrears. If the dues are not paid by February 1st a late fee of Five Dollars (\$5.00) shall be assessed, and an additional Five Dollars (\$5.00) for each month thereafter that the Brother is in arrears. This late fee may be waived by a majority vote of the Camp.

Section 4. Application Fee. Each first-time applicant for membership in the Sons of Union Veterans of the Civil War shall pay an Application Fee of Five Dollars (\$5.00) plus any required National and Department Application Fees.

Section 5. Initiation Fee. All Applicants for Membership, may, at their option, pay an Initiation Fee for the purpose of acquiring a membership badge as supplied by the National Quartermaster. The Initiation Fee shall be equal to the current price established by the National Quartermaster for a membership badge.
(As amended, September 14, 2019.)

ARTICLE VII ***Meetings***

Section 1. Regular Meetings. Regular meetings of the Camp shall generally be held on the 2nd Saturday of each odd numbered month, except for the month of July, at location(s) to be announced but within the boundaries of the State of California.

Section 2. Quorum. Five (5) members entitled to vote shall constitute a quorum at a regular or special meeting.

Section 3. FLAGS AND CHARTER. All meetings of the Camp shall have, at a minimum, the following items displayed, unless it is not practical: the United States Flag, the Camp Flag, the Holy Bible, and the Camp Charter.

ARTICLE VIII ***Delegates***

Section 1. DEPARTMENT ENCAMPMENT DELEGATES. Delegates to the Department Encampment shall be members of the Camp who are: current and Past Camp Commanders in good standing, who have served a full term or having been elected to fill a vacancy have served to the end of that term, all current and Past Department Commanders, all current and Past Commanders-in-Chief, one Delegate for the Camp membership-at-large, and one additional Delegate for every ten members, or major fraction thereof, based upon the report for the annual report next preceding the Encampment.

Section 2. ELECTION OF DELEGATES. Delegates, and an equal number of Alternates, shall be elected by a plurality vote of the Camp at a regular meeting of the Camp between the first meeting in October and the first meeting in December, inclusive. If for any reason a Delegate is unable to attend the Department Encampment, an Alternate Delegate shall replace that Delegate, as assigned by the Camp Commander, or his designee, as head of the Camp's delegation. Any vacancies in delegate representation needing to be filled beyond the Alternate Delegates shall be

filled by a vote of Delegates from this Camp in attendance at the Encampment; the Camp Commander having the prior right to appoint members to fill vacancies.

ARTICLE IX ***Officers and Elections***

Section 1. **Officers.** Camp Officers shall be of two types: elected and appointed. The Elected Officers of the Camp shall be as follows: Commander, Senior Vice Commander, Junior Vice Commander, Secretary, Treasurer, and Members of the Camp Council. The offices of Secretary and Treasurer may be held by a single Brother. The Camp Council shall be composed of three Brothers of the Camp not holding the office of Commander, Secretary, or Treasurer (or Secretary-Treasurer). The Appointed Officers of the Camp shall be: Chaplain, Patriotic Instructor, Counselor, Historian, Guide, Color Bearer, Guard, Signals Officer, Graves Registration Officer, the Civil War Memorials Officer, ROTC/JROTC Recognition Coordinator, and Eagle Scout Certificate Coordinator. Notwithstanding any other provisions of these Bylaws, these, and any other appointive officers, standing committee, or ad hoc committee members, shall be appointed by the Camp Commander, as he deems necessary and proper. Appointed officers and committee members serve a concurrent term with the Camp Commander, and at his pleasure.

Section 2. **Election and Installation.** The annual election of officers shall be conducted at the last regular meeting of the Camp held in November. Officers shall assume office on January 1 following their election. The officers shall be formally installed at the first regular meeting of the Camp held in January. The Department Commander or his representative shall serve as the Installing Officer.

Article X ***Duties of Elected Officers***

Section 1. **COMMANDER.**

(a) The purpose of the Office of Camp Commander is to direct and to provide oversight of Camp operations in order to foster and promote the goals and objectives of the SUVCW.

(b) The Camp Commander shall issue Camp Orders as necessary.

(c) The Camp commander shall appoint standing committees, and ad-hoc committees, as is necessary for the furtherance of the Camp's objectives.

Section 2. **SENIOR VICE COMMANDER.** The purpose of the Office of Camp Senior Vice Commander is to assist the Commander and promote the Order.

Section 3. **JUNIOR VICE COMMANDER.** The purpose of the office of Camp Junior Vice Commander is to assist with the recruitment and retention of members.

Section 4. **SECRETARY.** The purpose of the Office of Secretary is to keep the minutes of the meetings and to carry on necessary correspondence for the Camp.

Section 5. **TREASURER.** The purpose of the Office of Treasurer is to serve as custodian of Camp monies and property, to keep accurate financial records and to prepare periodic financial reports.

Section 6. **COUNCIL.** The purpose of the three-member Camp Council is to devise and recommend measures to help ensure the financial stability of the Camp and to fill vacancies which may occur in elected Camp offices.

Section 7. **AUTHORITY OF ELECTED OFFICERS.** The final power and authority of the Camp shall be vested in the Camp membership. Between Camp meetings, the elected Camp officers shall collectively manage the affairs of the Camp, carrying out the directives and directions of the Camp membership, consistent with the governing documents of this Camp.

Article XI

Separation, Dissolution and Disposition of Assets

Section 1. **SURRENDER OF CAMP CHARTER.** In the case of surrender or forfeiture of the Camp Charter, all Camp property and assets shall be turned over to the National Commander-in-Chief of the Sons of Union Veterans of the Civil War via the Department Commander of the Department of California and Pacific, acting as his duly authorized representative to collect and hold all such property in trust for the National Organization, Sons of Union Veterans of the Civil War, an organization exempt from taxes under section 501(c)3 of the Internal Revenue Code.

Section 2. **CAMP PROPERTY; CHARITABLE TRUST.** All property of the Camp shall be held for the National Organization, Sons of Union Veterans of the Civil War, as a charitable trust that is held and used for the purpose for which the Order exists. Any such transfer or disposal within six months of disbandment or surrender of the Camp Charter without the written consent of the National Commander-in-Chief of the Sons of Union Veterans of the Civil War is prohibited. The property and funds of the Camp shall not be divided among its members.

Section 3. **PROPERTY AND FUNDS; ALLIED ORDERS.** In the event the National Organization, Sons of Union Veterans of the Civil War, no longer exists, said property and funds shall revert to the benefit of the first and any remaining organization of the Allied Orders of the Grand Army of the Republic or in their absence, to the California State Archives.

Section 4. **DISSOLUTION OF ORGANIZATION.** Notwithstanding the above language, upon the dissolution of this organization, assets shall be distributed for one or more exempt purposes within the meaning of section 501(c)3 of the Internal Revenue Code,

or corresponding section of any future federal tax code, or shall be distributed to the federal government, or to a state or local government for a public purpose.

ARTICLE XII
Religion and Politics

The Order being strictly non-sectarian and non-partisan, the introduction or discussion of sectarian or partisan topics is strictly prohibited.

ARTICLE XIII
Juniors and Associates

As permitted by the Department Bylaws, the Camp welcomes Junior Members, Associates, and Junior Associates. The Camp places no further restrictions than those contained in the Constitution and Regulations of the SUVCW, and the Department Bylaws.

ARTICLE IVX
Inclusion of Department and National Rules and Regulations

Included herein by reference and made a part of these Bylaws are the following rules and regulations, and any subsequent amendments or modifications thereto: the Constitution, Regulations, and National Policies of the Sons of Union Veterans of the Civil War; and, the Bylaws of the Department of California and Pacific, SUVCW.

ARTICLE XV
Suspension of Bylaws

There shall be no suspension of these Bylaws during any meeting of the Camp.

ARTICLE XVI
Parliamentary Authority

Section 1. PARLIAMENTARY AUTHORITY. The most current edition of Robert's Rules of Order, Newly Revised, shall govern in all cases to which they are applicable and in which they are not inconsistent with these Bylaws, the Department Bylaws, the SUVCW Constitution and Regulations, National Policies, guidelines established by the Ritual of the Order, or with any legally adopted rules of the Order.

Section 2. PARLIAMENTARIAN. The Camp Counselor shall keep in his possession Robert's Rules of Order, Newly Revised, for his use as parliamentarian.

ARTICLE XVII
Amendments and Severability

Section 1. AMENDMENTS; PROCESS. The Bylaws of this Camp may be amended at any regular or special meeting by a two-thirds (2/3) vote of those members present and voting; provided, however, that a copy of the proposed amendment(s) has been filed with the Camp Commander, Camp Secretary, and copies provided to the membership at least seven (7) days prior to the meeting at which they are to be presented.

Section 2. EFFECTIVE; WRITTEN APPROVAL REQUIRED. Before becoming effective, any amendments to these Bylaws shall require the written approval of the Commander of the Department of California and Pacific.

Section 3. SEVERABILITY. In the event that any Article (or provisions thereof) in these Bylaws shall be found or held as invalid by any act of law, by any court of competent jurisdiction, by a conflict in the Department Bylaws, the SUVCW Constitution and Regulations, or National Policies, or for any other legitimate reason, such invalidity shall not affect the remaining provisions of these Bylaws, and to this end the provisions of these Bylaws are severable, all other provisions remaining in full force and effect.

BYLAWS
(AND AMENDMENTS THERETO)
CERTIFICATION

The foregoing Bylaws, as amended, having been adopted in the City of Los Angeles, County of Los Angeles, State of California, by the Gen. W. S. Rosecrans Camp No. 2, Department of California and Pacific, Sons of Union Veterans of the Civil War, two-thirds of the Brothers concurring, on this 14th day of September, in the year of our Lord two thousand nineteen, and of the Independence of the United States of America the two hundred forty-fourth.



Dean R. Smith, Commander
Gen. W. S. Rosecrans Camp No. 2
Department of California and Pacific
Sons of Union Veterans of the Civil War

ATTEST:

/s/Gordon M. Seyffert, Secretary
Gen. W. S. Rosecrans Camp No. 2
Department of California and Pacific
Sons of Union Veterans of the Civil War

The foregoing Bylaws, as amended, of the Gen. W. S. Rosecrans Camp No. 2, Department of California and Pacific, Sons of Union Veterans of the Civil War are found to be in accordance with the Constitution and Regulations of the Sons of Union Veterans of the Civil War and the Department Bylaws of the Department of California and Pacific, and are hereby approved by me on this 4th day of November, in the year of our Lord two thousand nineteen, and of the Independence of the United States of America the two hundred forty-fourth.

By: /s/ Rudy E. Velasco III (PCC), Commander
Department of California and Pacific
Sons of Union Veterans of the Civil War

ATTEST:

/s/ Owen R. Stiles (PCC), Secretary-Treasurer
Department of California and Pacific
Sons of Union Veterans of the Civil War

