

Civil War Philatelic Society

By-Laws**

** Adopted August 2, 1946 and amended January 1951, August 1956, June 1962, June 1965, December 1967, August 1971, March 1973, June 1977, August 1983, March 1985, March 1989, March 1993, April 2005, April 2011, September 2018 and November 2020. There is no record of the amendments made in August 1956. Therefore this copy of the By-Laws is based on those included in the Membership List dated January 1, 1957 and as subsequently amended.

ARTICLE I. Membership

Section 1. Honorary Members shall be such persons as the Trustees shall elect as deserving of such honor.

Section 2. Life, Sustaining, and Active Members shall be those members 18 years of age or older and they shall have the privilege of voting and of election as a Trustee.

Section 3. Junior Members shall be those members under 18 years of age whose parents or guardians have furnished signed statements guaranteeing the debts of such members of this Society. Junior Members, upon becoming 18 years of age, shall automatically become Active Members.

ARTICLE II. Election to Membership

Section 1. Applications for Membership or Reinstatement to Membership shall be on a form prescribed by the Trustees and provided by the Society; shall be signed by the applicant and by the member proposing said applicant; and shall be accompanied by a sum equal to the Processing Fee and prescribed Dues.

Section 2. Each application received shall be referred to the Membership Committee whose duty it shall be to obtain and carefully check references of all applicants. After all investigations have been completed and the Membership Committee is satisfied as to the qualifications of an applicant, such Committee shall, for and on behalf of the Trustees, promptly elect or reinstate the applicant to membership and so notify the Secretary.

Section 3. The Secretary shall assign a membership number to each new member and shall by letter promptly notify each applicant of his or her election to membership. Personal data concerning any member shall not be listed in any publication of the Society (including, without limiting the generality of the foregoing, the official publication of the Society, any roster of members of the Society or the Society's web site) unless and until such member has consented in writing to be so listed. Consent, once given, may be rescinded in writing by such member.

Without limiting the generality of the phrase personal data, the phrase personal data, as used above, shall include photographs made at public meetings or conventions which a member attends.

Section 4. Should any applicant be found not qualified for membership by the Membership Committee, the application form and accompanying fees shall be returned to the applicant together with a statement giving the reason for rejection. A rejected applicant may petition the Trustees for reconsideration of his or her application and may submit additional pertinent information. The decision of the Trustees upon such reconsideration shall be final.

Section 5. Any former member not under suspension and who has not been expelled, may request reinstatement by following the procedures prescribed in Section 1 above. Such former members who are reinstated shall be assigned their original membership number by the Secretary who, with the prior written consent of the reinstated member, may publish their reinstatement to membership in the official publication.

ARTICLE III. Election of Trustees

Section 1. The President shall appoint a Nominating Committee of not less than three (3) voting members, who are not then Trustees, not later than May 1 in odd numbered years. The names of the members of the Committee shall be promptly published in the official publication. The Committee shall propose one or more nominees for each position to be filled, after having canvassed their selection and obtained their consent to the nominations. The report of the Nominating Committee shall be published in the official publication no later than August 1 of that year. All names proposed by the Nominating Committee shall appear on the official ballot.

Section 2. Nominations for any position may also be made by petition of fifteen (15) or more voting members. Such petition shall be signed by the proposers and shall include the written consent of each nominee. Any such petitions shall be filed with the Secretary no later than September 1 of that year.

Section 3. The Official Ballot shall be sent to all voting members no later than October 1 of that year, and shall bear all names properly nominated in accordance with Section 1 and Section 2 hereof. The Official Ballots, when executed, shall be returned to the Credentials Committee of three (3) voting members who are not then Trustees, one of whom shall be designated as Chairman, to be appointed by the President with the consent of the Trustees. This Committee shall count the ballots and report the results to the President and the Secretary no later than November 1 of that year. The ballots and the tally thereof shall be retained by the Chairman of the Credentials Committee for at least sixty (60) days after the announcement of the results in the official publication, and shall be open for inspection by any voting member during that period.

Section 4. The Secretary shall report the results of the election immediately to the Trustees who shall promptly affirm them and report their decision to the membership in the official publication. Only a candidate whose name has appeared on the Official Ballot may challenge the decision of the Trustees as to the election to that particular office. Such a challenge must be filed with the Secretary prior to December 31 of that year, and the position shall be declared vacant for a period of thirty days while the Trustees reconsider their decision.

ARTICLE IV. Meetings of Trustees

Section 1. The Trustees may be convened in session by the President or by any three (3) Trustees for the transaction of any general business or the consideration of such special matters as may be specified in the call for such meetings. The phrase 'in session' as used in these Bylaws means a meeting of the Trustees, in person or otherwise, as provided in these Bylaws, or any formal or informal convening of the Trustees, together or individually, in any combination of means of gathering Trustees as provided in this Article IV or otherwise in these Bylaws.

Section 2. The Trustees may meet and/or vote in person or by written proxy (in accordance with applicable law) or by any other means of communication, including, without limiting the foregoing, e-mail, instant message, text message, telephone conference call, video conference call, or such other electronic means as might from time-to-time be available and approved for use by the President of the Society.

Unless otherwise provided by applicable law, the Restatement of Incorporation or by these Bylaws of the Society, the Trustees may take informal action on any matter to duly come before them if consent in writing, setting forth such action taken, is signed by a majority of Trustees and placed with the Society's corporate records. The intent of this section of the Bylaws is to facilitate the taking of action by the Trustees without convening a formal meeting of the Trustees so long as a majority of the Trustees then in office give their written consent to such action.

Any Trustee may waive prior notice of a session by delivering to the Secretary a written waiver of notice signed by such Trustee.

As used in these Bylaws, the term "writing" or "written" or any derivations thereof means any form of communication for the purpose permitted by these Bylaws so long as the communication can be reproduced in printed format and is capable of being stored with the Society's official records.

Section 3. A report of such meetings or ballots and business transacted shall be published by the Secretary in the next official publication.

Section 4. Assuming that a quorum of the Trustees is present in session, or that a quorum is voting as provided in Section 2 of this Article IV, a majority vote of the Trustees so convened shall be sufficient for the transaction of any business properly before the Trustees.

ARTICLE V. Meetings of Members

Section 1. The presence in person of a majority of the voting members registered as present at the annual Convention, but no less than ten such members shall constitute a quorum for the transaction of business.

Section 2. The order of business at any meeting shall be in accordance with ROBERTS RULES OF ORDER REVISED.

Section 3. A report of such meeting shall be published by the Secretary in the official publication within forty-five days after such meeting. This report shall include decisions of questions, any reports made by Trustees and committees, and present a summary of all matters considered and business transacted.

ARTICLE VI. Dues

Section 1. The annual dues to be paid by Active, Junior and Sustaining membership classes shall be such sums as are fixed by the Trustees, provided that thirty days notice shall be given to the membership through the official publication, of any changes in such amounts fixed for dues. The Secretary shall notify members when dues are due and payable and the amount of same. In addition to the application annual dues a non-refundable Processing Fee, as determined by the Trustees, shall be paid by each applicant for membership or reinstatement.

Section 2. Any member in arrears for dues for the current fiscal year shall be automatically dropped from membership three months following the date the fiscal year begins, and all rights and privileges of such member in the Society shall thereupon terminate and such members shall be listed in the official publication.

Section 3. Any member indebted to the Society for other than dues for a period of three months shall be certified to the Trustees by the Secretary. If such indebtedness is not paid within such time as the Trustees may determine, the Trustees shall order such member dropped from the membership and all rights and privileges by such member in the Society shall thereupon terminate. Such members shall be listed in the official publication.

Section 4. The fee to be paid by a Life Member shall be such sum and of such terms as fixed by the Trustees, provided that thirty days notice shall be given to the membership through the official publication, of any change in such amount or terms.

ARTICLE VII. Publications

Section 1. The official publication shall be "CIVIL WAR PHILATELIST" and a copy of each issue shall be mailed to each member. The subscription price shall be paid as a part of the annual dues.

Section 2. The official publication may be supplemented by letters to every member as the Trustees may decide and all such letters shall have official status.

Section 3. The subscription price to non-members will be an amount established by the Trustees, but not less than an amount equal to the current annual dues for Active Members.

ARTICLE VIII. Amendments

These By-Laws may be amended by a two-thirds vote of the membership of this Society voting by mail, provided both the existing and the proposed article and section shall have been published in full in the official publication at least thirty (30) days prior to the date specified for closing the ballot.

ARTICLE IX. Title of General

The power to confer the Title of "GENERAL" upon a member shall be vested in the Trustees. The Trustees shall have the power to confer the title of "General" upon; (a) Past Presidents who have performed their duties well, and (b) other deserving members who shall be considered worthy by the

Trustees. Provided that not more than one title of "GENERAL" shall be conferred between election dates. This provision shall not apply to Past Presidents.

ARTICLE X. Awards

Section 1. Service Awards

a.) **The Haydn Myer Award** for distinguished service to the Society by a member during the past year may be made annually at the discretion of the Trustees. A member is not eligible for this award for services performed as a Trustee.

b) **The August Dietz Award** for distinguished service to Civil War philately in the field of research and writing by a member during the past year may be made annually at the discretion of the Trustees. The trophy representing this award shall remain the property of the recipient.

Section 2. Exhibit Awards

The following awards are to be made by a jury of not less than three members appointed by the President prior to the opening of the Exhibition held in connection with each Convention.

a) **The Civil War Philatelic Society Trophy** shall be awarded to the member exhibiting the best and most comprehensive collection of Civil War stamps and/or covers at the exhibition. No member may be awarded this trophy more often than once in five years.

b) **The President's Trophy** shall be awarded for the best exhibit of Civil War stamps and/or covers, in any classification, exhibited by a member who has never previously been awarded any trophy at a Civil War Philatelic Society Exhibition. This trophy is either to be donated annually by the President, or by the Trustees in his or her name, and shall remain the property of the winner thereof.

c) **The Trustees' Research Trophy** shall be awarded for the best exhibit, single frame or multi-frame, which illustrates new knowledge/understanding of Civil War stamps, covers or postal history, or an extension to existing knowledge.

d) Additional Trophies, which may be donated and are found acceptable in advance by the Trustees, shall be awarded by the Jury, within its discretion, as deemed appropriate, necessary and deserving.

e) Only one exhibition award may be made to any one entry at each exhibition.

f) A report of all awards and the winners thereof shall be delivered by the Jury to the President, the Secretary, and the Editor of the Official Publication promptly upon completion of the judging of the exhibits.

g) Certificates of Award and for Participation in each exhibition may be presented to all member exhibitors.

ARTICLE XI. Insignia

Section 1. The use of the official letterhead and seals of the Society or reproductions of facsimiles thereof, is restricted to uses and purposes approved by the Trustees.

Article XII. Authentication Service

Section 1. The Society shall establish and maintain an official authentication service for the benefit of the membership. The name of this service shall be the Civil War Philatelic Authentication Service.

Section 2. Membership in the Authentication Service shall be comprised of a Chairman, Recording Secretary and at least three other members. The Chairman and Recording Secretary will be elected by members of the Authentication Service from the body of serving members.

Section 3. The Chairman of the Authentication Service shall submit the names of nominees for appointment to membership in the Authentication Service to the Trustees for approval.

Section 4. A member of the Authentication Service may be removed from membership at the request of the Chairman of the Authentication Service or a majority of the members of the Authentication Service, with the consent of the Trustees.

Section 5. Fees. The Chairman of the Authentication Service shall set the fees for the service with the consent of the Trustees.

Section 6. Affiliations. The Chairman of the Authentication Service with the consent of the Trustees may enter into affiliations with other entities that provide authentication services or promote philatelic research in areas that will benefit the authentication process.

NB: Underlined sections are 2020 changes