

CONSTITUTION

**THE
NEW ENGLAND DISTRICT
OF THE
NATIONAL SOCIETY
SONS OF THE AMERICAN REVOLUTION**

**The New England District of the National Society Sons of the American Revolution
Revised and Approved at the Annual Meeting of March 18, 2023**



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ARTICLE I - NAME AND STATUS

The Name of this organization shall be “The New England District of the National Society Sons of the American Revolution” (NED). This District is part of the National Society of the Sons of the American Revolution. It shall consist of the following State Societies: Connecticut, Maine, Massachusetts, New Hampshire, Rhode Island, and Vermont. When called together as a group, it shall be called the “New England Council” (NEC).

ARTICLE II - OBJECT

The objects of the 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 mark the scenes of the Revolution by appropriate memorials; 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 purpose expressed in the preamble of the Constitution of the country and the injunctions of Washington in his farewell address to the American people.

ARTICLE III - MEMBERSHIP

Section I - Members: Any member in good standing in one of the State Societies listed in Article I shall be a member of the New England District Sons of the American Revolution.

ARTICLE IV - OFFICERS OF THE DISTRICT

Section I – President of the New England Council: At the Annual Meeting of the NED, a member of the district will be elected President of the NEC. That person will be nominee of the District for election as Vice President General of the NED at the next Congress of the National Society except as provided in Section II.

Section II – Vice President General of the New England District. The duties of the Vice President are significant as outlined in the official handbook of the National Society. Candidates for the office must agree to fulfill those duties before accepting their nomination. When a member is unable to do so, the District Council may nominate another member of the NED to become Vice President General and allow the candidate to remain as President of the NEC. The Vice President General may not succeed himself.

Eligibility: He shall have served as either a State Society President or a State Chapter President of some society within the National Society.

His duties shall consist of the following:

- Preside at the District Meetings.
- Promote the interest and activities of the National Society.
- Assist and represent the state societies of the District at the National Trustees Meetings and at the National Congress.
- Visit local Chapters and the meetings of the State Societies and encourage growth in the chapters and state Societies.
- Perform additional duties within the District as may be delegated or assigned to him by the President General, the Executive Committee, or the Board of National Trustees.
- Call a meeting of the State Presidents by telephone, e-mail or in person, if necessary on matters of great urgency.

The office of Vice President General shall be rotated through the constituent states in the following order:

Massachusetts - Vermont - New Hampshire - Rhode Island - Maine - Connecticut

If a State defers in sponsoring a candidate, the option will go to the next State in the rotation shown above.

The Vice President General must appoint a Parliamentarian who may advise him on matters pertaining to the Conduct of Meetings [in accordance with Roberts Rules]. His term shall end with the installation of the next Vice President General, although he may be reappointed.

Section III - District Secretary: He shall be elected at the Annual meeting of the NEC. His eligibility requirements for office are the same as for the Vice President General. He may succeed himself.

His duties shall be as follows:

- He shall be responsible for keeping the minutes and reports of this District.
- He shall be responsible for the notification of all State Society Presidents, all Chapter Presidents, all State Secretaries, all National Trustees, all Alternate National Trustees, and all former General Officers residing in the District of the time and place of each meeting of the New England Council.

Section IV - District Treasurer: He shall be elected at the Annual meeting of the New England Council. He may succeed himself. The Treasurer shall be responsible for the funds of the New England Council and render the appropriate reports to the New England Council. He shall be responsible for billing the constituent State Societies for their annual dues. He shall disperse monies as voted by the New England Council.

Section V - Vacancy in office by the death, disability, resignation or other cause. In the event of the death, resignation or disability of the President, the State Society that nominated the President may nominate a successor, President. If that State Society declines to nominate a successor, then the Secretary of the New England District shall assume the office of president pro tempore until the next annual meeting. Should the Secretary be unable or unwilling to serve, then the Treasurer of the New England District shall assume the office of president pro tempore. In the event of the death, resignation or disability of the Secretary or the Treasurer, then the President shall appoint any member qualified to serve as successor in office until the next annual meeting. The President shall not hold more than one consecutive full term.

ARTICLE V - VOTING AT DISTRICT MEETINGS

Voting shall be by state with each State Society having a delegation of up to five members. The delegation may be specified by the Secretary of the State Society to the Secretary of the NEC before the

day of its Annual Meeting, or shall fall to those members of the state society present at the meeting.

ARTICLE VI - DISTRICT MEETINGS

The Annual Meeting of the District shall be held in the spring at a time and place to be decided by the Vice President General, in consultation with the President of the host State Society. It must be held prior to the National Congress.

There shall be a Fall Meeting of the District to be held at time and place to be decided by the Vice President General in the same manner as the Annual meeting.

The meeting of the New England Council shall have full authority to conduct such business as may regularly come before any meeting of the Sons of the American Revolution.

ARTICLE VII - QUORUM

A quorum shall consist of four State Societies present, providing seven delegates be present.

ARTICLE VIII - DUES

Annually, each of the constituent State Societies shall be assessed per capita or by fixed amount for the support of the District. The amount shall be set at the Annual Meeting.

ARTICLE IX - AMENDMENTS

This Constitution may be changed, altered or substituted in whole or in part by a two-thirds vote at the Annual Meeting.

Any proposed change to this Constitution must be published a minimum of 45 days before the Annual Meeting by the Secretary of the New England District. The proposed changes will be mailed to the Vice President General and to the President and Secretary of each State Society of the New England District.