

Amended Constitution – Approved at
2016 Fall Conference & 2017 Spring Conference

CONSTITUTION

**10TH DISTRICT
THE AMERICAN LEGION
DEPARTMENT OF WISCONSIN**

PREAMBLE

For God and Country, we associate ourselves together for the following purposes: To uphold and defend the Constitution of the United States of America; to maintain law and order; to foster and perpetuate a one hundred percent Americanism; to preserve the memories and incidents of our associations in the Great Wars; to inculcate a sense of individual obligation to the community, state and nation; to combat the autocracy of both the classes and the masses; to make right the master of might; to promote peace and good will on earth; to safeguard and transmit to posterity the principles of justice, freedom and democracy; to consecrate and sanctify our comradeship by our devotion to mutual helpfulness.

ARTICLE I

The name of this organization shall be the 10th District, The American Legion, Department of Wisconsin.

**ARTICLE II
NATURE**

SECTION 1. The 10th District is a civilian organization; membership therein does not affect nor increase liability for military or police service. Rank does not exist therein; no member shall be addressed by their military or naval title in any convention or meeting of the 10th District.

SECTION 2. The 10th District shall be absolutely non-political and shall not be used for the dissemination of partisan principles nor for the promotion of the candidacy of any person seeking public office or preferment.

SECTION 3. Sex shall not be held as a qualification for office, and women may be elected or appointed to office; and the use herein of the masculine pronoun shall be held to include the feminine.

**ARTICLE III
ORGANIZATION**

The 10th District is a constituent part and subordinate to The American Legion, Department of Wisconsin, and to The American Legion, a Federal Corporation, organized by act of Congress.

SECTION 1. The District organization shall consist of the following:

District officers:
One District Commander

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Three District Vice- Commanders
One District Adjutant/Finance Officer
One District Service Officer
One District Judge Advocate
One District Chaplain
Two District Sergeants-at-Arms

District Adjutant and District Finance Officer may be two (2) persons at the discretion of the District Commander. And such officers as the District Conference shall determine.

DISTRICT EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE

SECTION 2. A District Executive Committee shall be composed of the District Commander, the immediate past District Commander, the three District Vice- Commanders, the District Chaplain, the District Adjutant/Finance Officer, and eight County Commanders. No County Commander may hold an elected District office, with the exception being that of the two Sergeants-at-Arms positions.

POSTS

SECTION 3. The local Unit of the District shall be the Post.

COUNTY COUNCIL

SECTION 4. Established County Councils to co-ordinate the County activities of The American Legion are recognized as a definite part of the 10th District.

**ARTICLE IV
ADMINISTRATION**

District Conference

SECTION 1. The legislative body of the organization shall be the District Conference. Two of such conferences shall be held each year and shall be known as the District Spring Conference and the District Fall Conference. The District organization shall hold such other meetings as may be provided by its By-Laws.

SECTION 2. The District Conference shall be composed of delegates and alternates from each Post having an actual paid-up minimum membership. Such delegates and alternates shall be selected from those who have paid their dues by the start of the District Conference. Each such Post shall have a minimum of two delegates and two alternates, together with one additional delegate and alternate for each one hundred on which the Post has paid its dues to the Department and District. However, those with less than fifteen (15) paid members shall be allowed one (1) delegate and one (1) alternate.

SECTION 3. At least twenty-one days prior to the District Conference the District shall issue to each Post a certificate showing the number of delegates and alternates to which that Post is entitled under this Constitution. The Post Adjutant of each Post shall certify the names of the delegates and alternates elected by the Post by endorsement thereon, and shall present the same to the District by the opening of the business meeting of the District Conference.

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SECTION 4. There shall be a Credentials Committee consisting of three members to be appointed by the District Commander to sit the day of the conference to pass upon and decide the eligibility of delegates and alternates. At least two members shall be appointed from the hosting Post. The District Commander shall designate the chairperson. At the start of a District Conference the chairperson of the Credentials Committee shall report to the Supervisor of Elections the number of eligible delegates that are present.

SECTION 5. Each delegate present at the District Conference shall have one vote. In his absence, an alternate, if present, may vote in his stead. All past District Commanders, all members of the District Executive Committee and all County Commanders shall have the status of delegates to the District Conference.

SECTION 6. No delegates shall be entitled to a seat or a vote in the District Conference unless the Post from which they are elected has paid all financial obligations owing the District.

SECTION 7. A majority of the Counties when represented wholly or in part by duly accredited delegates or alternates shall constitute a quorum at any District Conference.

SECTION 8. The District Conference may make its own rules of procedure, but in the absence of such action, the rules shall be the same as prescribed by Roberts Rules of Order. The Department of Wisconsin Constitution and By-Laws may also be consulted as a reference to provide guidance for procedural questions.

ARTICLE V
NATIONAL CONVENTION

SECTION 1. Delegates to the National Convention shall be in number as prescribed by the Department. The District Commander, during the time of National Convention, shall be a delegate to the National Convention.

SECTION 2. The additional delegates shall be elected at each Spring Conference of the 10th District on Saturday of said Conference between the hours of 9:30 AM and 11:59 AM.

SECTION 3. Each County Council will be permitted to have one delegate to the National Convention. Such additional delegates as the District may be entitled to shall be nominated and elected at the District Conference.

SECTION 4. Alternates shall be selected from:

A. County Council nominees not elected as delegates.

B. Any member nominated from the floor.

C. The order of alternates shall be determined by mutual agreement of the alternates.

EXAMPLE: 10th District allowed 7 delegates. District Commander is an automatic delegate leaving a balance of 6. Eight counties nominate a delegate. One county delegate who is not elected shall become the first alternate.

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SECTION 5. No member shall be elected as a delegate to the National Convention unless he is present at the election of delegates or with recommendations by District Commander and voted present by the delegates at the Conference

ARTICLE VI

SECTION 1. The District shall have the power to levy and collect per-capita dues and assessments from the Posts with the District as defined in the Wisconsin American Legion By-Laws.

ARTICLE VII

SECTION 1. Discipline of any Officer appointee or member shall be as prescribed by the Constitution and By-Laws of the Department of Wisconsin and the National American Legion Constitution and By-Laws.

ARTICLE VIII

SECTION 1. This Constitution may be amended at any District Conference by a two-thirds vote of the duly qualified delegates present, provided that the proposed amendment(s) shall be made in writing and first submitted to the District Executive Committee.

SECTION 2. Amendments to the Department Constitution and to the National Constitution shall automatically operate to amend the Constitution of the 10th District.