

**BYLAWS OF THE ATLANTIC MIDDLE STATES ASSOCIATION  
OF THE NATIONAL SOCIETY OF THE SONS OF THE AMERICAN REVOLUTION**

*Adopted by the Association on July 29, 2000  
Amended at West Point, NY on July 27, 2002  
Amended at Harrisburg, PA on July 26, 2003  
Amended at Annapolis, MD on August 11, 2007  
Amended at Alexandria, VA on August 13, 2011*

**ARTICLE I  
NAME & STATUS**

The name of the organization shall be "Atlantic Middle States Association Of The National Society Of The Sons Of The American Revolution" (the "Association"). The Association is created to further the aims of the National Society, Sons of the American Revolution. The Association shall be composed of the State Societies of the Mid-Atlantic SAR District: Delaware, District of Columbia, Maryland, Pennsylvania, and Virginia, and the North-Atlantic SAR District: New York and New Jersey.

**ARTICLE II  
OBJECTS**

The Objectives of the Association shall be to support, honor and preserve the places and events that were significant to the American Revolution within the boundaries of Association, to educate our members and the public in general about the people, places and events of the American Revolution within the Association, to support the National Society of the Sons of the American Revolution ("National Society"), its officers and its candidates for office, and to support the objectives of the National Society as set forth in Article II of the National Society's Constitution.

**ARTICLE III  
MEMBERSHIP**

Any Member in good standing in any one of the State Societies in either District shall be a Member of the Association.

**ARTICLE IV  
OFFICERS**

*Section 1.* The Officers of the Association shall be the two incumbent Vice Presidents General. Each Vice President General shall be nominated at the Annual Meeting of the Association immediately preceding his election and installation at the Annual Congress of the National Society. The incumbent Vice Presidents General may appoint such other aides as may be helpful in carrying out their duties.

*Section 2.* The privilege of nominating the Vice President General of the Mid-Atlantic District shall rotate among the State Societies of the Mid-Atlantic District in the following order: District of Columbia, Pennsylvania, Delaware, Virginia, and Maryland, starting in 1998.

*Section 3.* The privilege of nominating the Vice President General of the North Atlantic District shall alternate every two years between the New York and the New Jersey State Societies, starting in 1998.

*Section 4.* Each State Society shall prescribe a method of selection and endorsement satisfactory for that state. The candidate need not be a member of the State Society whose turn it is to nominate the Vice President General.

*Section 5.* The duties of the two Vice Presidents General, in addition to those prescribed by the National Society, shall be to help plan the annual Association meeting (the "Annual Meeting") and to preside over the Annual Meeting and any other Association meeting. The two Vice Presidents General shall cooperate and equitably share the duties of planning and presiding over meetings of the Association.

## **ARTICLE V**

### **MEETINGS**

*Section 1.* There shall be hosted an Annual Meeting of the Association.

- A. The Annual Meeting shall be held alternatively in each of the seven State Societies, in alphabetical order (Delaware, District of Columbia, Maryland, New Jersey, New York, Pennsylvania, Virginia) starting in 1998. If a State Society does not take its turn to host the meeting another State Society may volunteer to host that meeting; *provided, however*, that the order of host societies for the following years' meetings shall not change.
- B. The hosting State Society shall schedule the date of the Annual Meeting during the second weekend in August.

*Section 2.* The Annual Meeting shall consist of two part of approximately equal duration, with a the (10) minute intermission between the parts. The business of the first part shall concern matters relevant to the National Society, and the business of the second part shall concern matters relevant to the Association.

- A. The order of business shall include, but is not limited to, the following:
  - Part 1: Call to order
    - Invocation
    - Pledge of Allegiance to the Flag of the United States of America
    - Pledge of the SAR
    - Greetings and/or Reports from the VPGs
    - Nomination and Election for endorsements of candidates for National Society General Officers
    - Remarks by the General Officers
    - Any further business pertaining to the National Society
    - Minutes of the Last Annual Meeting
  - Part 2: Call to Order
    - Reports from the State Presidents
    - Old State Business
    - New State Business
    - Invitation to the Next Annual Meeting
    - Recessional
    - Adjournment
- B. The presiding VPG of the Annual Meeting may, at his discretion, call for an additional business session if he feels the business of the Annual Meeting will not be completed in a single session. The business of the first session shall concern matters relevant to the National Society, and the business of the second session shall concern matters relevant to the Association.

*Section 3.* Special meetings of the Association may be called by either of the incumbent Vice Presidents General or upon application to the two Vice Presidents General by five of the seven State Society Presidents. Any action taken at a special meeting is subject to ratification by the next Annual Meeting.

*Section 4.* All Members of the two Districts, as described in Article III hereof, shall be entitled to attend, speak, and vote on any questions coming before a meeting, with the exception of nominations of the Vice Presidents General.

## **ARTICLE VI**

### **ELECTION FOR ENDORSEMENT OF NATIONAL OFFICERS**

*Section 1.* Each candidate for National office desiring the endorsement of the Association must send to the Vice President General of each District notice of his intent to run and stating whether he will (i) attend and (ii) speak at the Annual Meeting no sooner than ten (10) days after the National Society Congress, and no later than ten (10) days before the Annual Meeting. No candidates will be allowed to run from the floor that have not given notice to the Vice Presidents General of each District. The registration requirements of this section may be suspended, and a candidate may run from the floor, if the Members present at the conference vote to suspend the registration requirement by a two-thirds (2/3) affirmative vote.

*Section 2.* Upon the close of business day on the tenth day before the Annual Meeting and up until the day before the start of the Annual Meeting, the presiding VPG or his designate will prepare an endorsement ballot from the candidate correspondence received.

*Section 3.* The presiding VPG will start the Nomination and Election process by selecting: (i) a volunteer time keeper and (ii) three tellers to pass out, collect and tally the ballots.

*Section 4.* The presiding VPG will then announce the first candidate (in alphabetical order) for each National Office, beginning with the office of President General, and will ask for a proposer of the candidate.

- A. The proposer will then stand and state: "I (proposer's name) of the (state) Society, hereby nominate (candidate's name) of the (candidate's state) Society for office of (national office)."
- B. A proposer will be allowed to nominate only one National Officer.
- C. The presiding VPG will then ask if the candidate is present and will invite him to step forward.
  1. If the candidate is present he will be given three (3) minutes to speak on why he wants the position, on his qualifications, on his goals etc.
    - a. If the office is contested, the candidate will be given an additional two (2) minutes to answer questions from the floor.
    - b. If the office is uncontested, the presiding VPG will indicate so and then move on to the announcement of the next candidate or office and the process will start again as detailed in this section.
  2. If the candidate is not present, the presiding VPG will continue with the next candidate.
- D. Once all candidates for National Office have been recognized, the presiding VPG will declare the nominations process closed. He will then declare the election will commence and ask the tellers to pass out the election ballots to those Members of the Association present and voting.
  1. The election ballot will contain the names of all candidates that have given notice to the VPG's pursuant to section 1 of this Article.
    - a. For a contested office, the winner of the election shall be the candidate with the majority vote.
    - b. For an uncontested office, a candidate must receive a two-thirds majority of the ballots cast to receive support of the Association.

2. When voting is complete the presiding VPG will request the three tellers count the total ballots and declare a winner for each office. If a candidate for an uncontested office does not receive a two-thirds (2/3) majority vote, there will be no endorsement from the Association for that office.
3. If there is one contested office, there will be no vote by acclamation.

*Section 5.* After the tellers have declared a winner, the presiding VPG will have the head teller announce the endorsement results and direct the Secretary of the Annual Meeting to present the names of the Association endorsed candidates to the National Nominating Committee, no later than February 1<sup>st</sup>.

## **ARTICLE VI**

### NOMINATION OF THE VICE-PRESIDENTS GENERAL

Each of the two incumbent Vice Presidents General shall, in advance of the Annual Meeting, solicit the name of the candidate for Vice President General for his District. That candidate must be selected and endorsed as described in Article IV, Sections 2, 3, and 4 hereof. Each of the two incumbent Vice Presidents General shall lay the endorsement from his District before the membership of the Association at the next Annual Meeting and move that the candidate be endorsed as the nominee for Vice President General for that District. Each incumbent Vice Presidents General shall promptly communicate to the Chairman of the Nominating Committee of the National Society the nominee for Vice President General for his District.

## **ARTICLE VII**

### PARLIAMENTARY AUTHORITY

The Rules contained in the current edition of Robert's Rules of Order, Newly Revised shall govern the Association in all cases to which they are applicable and in which they are not inconsistent with these Bylaws and any special rules of order the Association may adopt.

## **ARTICLE VIII**

### AMENDMENTS

Proposed amendments to these Bylaws shall be submitted in writing to the two Vice Presidents General and to the seven Presidents of the State Societies in this Association at least forty-five (45) days prior to the Annual Meeting and shall require a two-thirds (2/3) affirmative vote of the Members present and voting at the Annual Meeting for approval.