

ARTICLE II
DEPARTMENT COMMITTEES

Section 1. (A) ENUMERATION. There shall be the following standing Department Committees in The American Legion, Department of Wyoming: Americanism, Athletic, Boys' State; Jr. Shooting Sport, Oratorical Contest, Wyoming High School Rodeo, Children and Youth, E. A. Blackmore Memorial Scholarship Foundation, Homeland Security, Veterans Affairs and Rehabilitation, Economic and Employment, Hospital, Finance, Ways and Means, Legislative, Membership and Post Activities, Religious Emphasis, Public Relations, Newspaper, Sons of the American Legion, Convention, and Constitution and Bylaws.

(B) Additional Committees as may be deemed necessary may be established from time to time upon motion by the Department Convention or the Department Executive Committee.

Section 2 (A) MEMBERSHIP AND TENURE OF DEPARTMENT COMMITTEES. Each committee shall have a rotating membership consisting of three members each unless otherwise directed by the respective committee. The initial appointment will be three members for a term of one year, two years, and three years respectively. After such initial appointment, one member shall be appointed each year for a term of three years, provided, that those replacements necessitated by a person vacating his/her office shall serve the remaining unexpired term. The senior member of each of the above mentioned committees shall automatically serve as chairman of said committee, provided, that upon re-appointment, a member shall start over in the rotation schedule for committee chairmanship; and provided further, that when the office of chairman of the committee is vacated, it shall be filled by the next senior member of that committee and not by his replacement.

(B) For the purpose of defining the term of one year, two years or three years with respect to the tenure of the Committees in the Article, a year shall commence with the first day of September and end with the thirty-first of August, the succeeding year.

(C) THE ATHLETIC COMMITTEE shall have a membership of seven (7) members, which shall consist of the six (6) District Athletic Commissioners and the Department Athletic Officer who shall serve as Chairman. They shall serve for a term of one year, beginning September 1st and until their successors are appointed and qualified. The Department 2nd Vice Commander shall serve on the committee ex-officio without vote.

(D) THE BOY'S STATE COMMITTEE shall have a rotating membership of six members. The initial appointment will be six members, two for a term of one year, two for a term of two years, and two for a term of three years. After such initial appointment, two members shall be appointed each year for a term of three years, provided, that those replacements necessitated by a person vacating his office, shall serve the remaining unexpired term. At the first meeting following their appointment, the Department Boys' State Committee shall elect for a period of one year a Chairman, Vice Chairman, Secretary and Treasurer who shall serve until their successors shall be elected and qualified. The Constitution and By-laws of the Wonderful Wyoming Boys' State will govern the committee. The Department 2nd Vice Commander shall serve on the committee ex-officio without vote, except in the absence of the Department Commander, the Department 2nd Vice Commander will have all the powers and voting rights of

the Department Commander.

(E) THE FINANCE COMMITTEE shall consist of the Department Finance Officer, who shall serve as chairman, the Department Commander, the Department Vice Commander, the Department 2nd Vice Commander, the National Executive Committeeman and the immediate past Department Commander and the Department Adjutant, who shall serve as an ex-officio member without vote, provided that in the event the National Executive Committeeman is also the immediate past Department Commander, the Alternate National Executive Committeeman shall serve as a member of this committee. They shall serve as members of the Department Finance Committee as long as they hold such office and until their successors are selected and qualified.

(F) THE HOSPITAL COMMITTEE shall have a membership of nine members appointed each year for a term of one year until their successors are duly qualified and selected. Three members shall be appointed from Cheyenne, three members shall be appointed from Buffalo and three members shall be appointed from Sheridan. At the time of such appointment one member from Cheyenne, one member from Buffalo and one member from Sheridan shall be designated as co-chairmen.

(G) THE MEMBERSHIP AND POST ACTIVITIES COMMITTEE shall consist of the Department Vice Commander, who shall serve as chairman and the six District Vice Commanders. They shall serve as members of this committee for a term of one year and until their successors are qualified and elected.

(H) THE RELIGIOUS EMPHASIS COMMITTEE shall have a membership of three members which shall consist of the Department Chaplain, who shall serve as chairman, and two other members appointed for a term of one year each, and until their successors are qualified and selected.

(I) THE NEWSPAPER COMMITTEE shall be responsible for the operation of the Department newspaper presently titled *Wyoming Legionnaire-Auxiliare*. The committee shall consist of the Department Commander, Department Vice Commander, Department 2nd Vice Commander, Department Adjutant, Department Finance Officer and Department Judge Advocate. This committee shall meet upon the call of the Chairman who shall be the Department Adjutant.

(J) THE E.A. BLACKMORE MEMORIAL SCHOLARSHIP FOUNDATION INC. COMMITTEE shall consist of six (6) members, two (2) of whom shall serve for one (1) year, two (2) of whom shall serve for two (2) years, and two (2) of whom shall serve for three (3) years. After initial appointment, two members will be appointed each year for a term of three years. The committee will be governed by the E. A. Blackmore Memorial Scholarship Foundation Inc. By-laws. The Department 2nd Vice Commander shall serve on the committee ex-officio without vote.

(K) THE HIGH SCHOOL RODEO COMMITTEE shall organize, supervise and manage the annual American Legion's State Championship High School Rodeo. This committee shall set the time and place for the Rodeo, arrange for all livestock, prizes, staff and other incidentals required

to put on the Rodeo. This committee shall meet at the call of the chairman. The Constitution and By-laws of the Wyoming American Legion High School Championship Rodeo will govern the committee. The Department 2nd Vice Commander shall serve on the committee ex-officio without vote, except in the absence of the Department Commander, the Department 2nd Vice Commander will have all the powers and voting rights of the Department Commander.

(L) WAYS AND MEANS COMMITTEE shall consist of five members at large who upon the first meeting of the year will vote on a chairman, vice chairman, secretary and treasure. Initial appointment will be two (2) members for three (3) years, two (2) members for two (2) years and one (1) member for one (1) year. The committee will discuss and implement revenue enhancement projects for the Department. The committee shall maintain a separate operational account to cover implementation of the approved projects, which an accounting of the books will be made available with the annual reports. The committee will meet four (4) times a year, thereafter a meeting shall be called at the discretion of the chairman. The committee will forward their recommendations to the Finance Committee for their review and in turn the Finance Committee Chairman will forward the approved recommendations to the Department Executive Committee for their consideration. The Department 2nd Vice Commander shall serve on the committee ex-officio without vote.

(M) SONS OF AMERICAN LEGION - The American Legion, Department of Wyoming recognizes the Sons of American Legion, Detachment of Wyoming. A committee will be made up of Legionnaires who will serve as advisors to the Detachment. The Detachment Commander shall serve on the committee ex-officio.

(N) HOMELAND SECURITY COMMITTEE shall be responsible to coordinate with the equivalent state agency and the Military Department to inform the membership on their status and how it affects the community and state.

(O) ORATORICAL COMMITTEE shall be comprised of a chairman and the six District Vice-Commanders. The committee shall be responsible in planning and coordinating the individual District Contests and the Department Contest to insure the Department Contest is completed a minimum of 30 days prior to the National Contest. Members of this committee shall serve for a term of one year and until their successors are qualified and installed or appointed. The Department 2nd Vice-Commander shall serve on the committee ex-officio without vote.

(P) JUNIOR SHOOTING SPORTS COMMITTEE shall be comprised of a chairman and at least two members. The committee shall be responsible in coordinating education, gun safety and competitive shooting throughout the state. Members of this committee shall serve for a term of one year and until their successors are qualified and appointed. The Department 2nd Vice-Commander shall serve on the committee ex-officio without vote.

(Q) WYOMING AMERICAN LEGION RIDERS OF THE UNITED STATES (WALRUS) – The American Legion, Department of Wyoming recognizes the Wyoming American Legion Riders of the United States (WALRUS). A committee will be made up of members of The American Legion, Department of Wyoming, who will serve as advisors to WALRUS. The

Director of WALRUS shall serve on the committee ex-officio without vote.

Section 3. MANNER OF APPOINTMENT. Unless otherwise provided for in this constitution and by-laws, all Department Committee members shall be appointed by the Department Commander, with and by the consent and approval of the Department Executive Committee within thirty days following the adjournment of the Department Convention: provided that replacements appointed by the Department Commander, between meetings of the Department Executive Committee, need not have the consent and approval of said committee. The Department Commander may call for and receive recommendations, for appointments to Department Committees, from the Post Commanders, District Commanders and Department Officers. These recommendations must be received on the prescribed forms sent out by Department Headquarters for that purpose.

Section 4. (A) DUTIES OF DEPARTMENT COMMITTEES. The duty of all Department Committees shall be determined at the time the committee or committees are established, provided, that the Department Executive Committee may from time to time assign duties and responsibilities to Department Committees.

(B1) FINANCE COMMITTEE. It shall be the duty of the Department Finance Committee to meet before the opening of the Department Convention to arrange for funds for the purpose of discharging the obligations of the Department and to set up a budget based on the financial needs for the ensuing year, to be submitted to and approved by the Department Executive Committee at its meeting immediately before the Department Convention provided, said committee may meet again at the time of later meetings of the Department Executive Committee during the year and amend or revise the budget.

(B2) No expenditure in any one year shall be made or authorized by the Finance Committee, or approved by the Executive Committee, in excess of current income for that year, except in case of urgent necessity, and in no event in excess of twenty percent (20%) of the reserve funds in addition to current income. Reserve funds is the cash on hand and in the bank or any securities on hand at the beginning of the current fiscal year.

(B3) The Finance Committee shall have the custody of and be responsible for all the securities and investments of the Department and shall keep full and accurate records and accounts of same. It shall also be the duty of the Department Finance Committee from time to time to propose the system to be followed by the Department Headquarters in accounting for the expenditures, and to arrange for and employ a qualified public accountant to make monthly reports, and to audit the books of the Department at least once a year.

Section 5. Each Department Committee Chairman shall submit at each annual Department Convention, a full report of the activities of his/her committee.