

THE CONTINENTAL LINE, INC.

BYLAWS

Article I. – Name of the Organization

The name of the organization shall be “The Continental Line, Inc.” (“The Line” or “the Corporation”).

Article II. – Objective of the Organization

The Continental Line is a non-profit educational organization composed of several recreated units representing the actual units, which fought on the side of the American Colonies during the American Revolution. These units may include units of the Continental Army, the various colonial militias, the Continental Navy, the Continental Marines and units in the services of the French King. In addition, the membership of each unit may include persons portraying civilians of the 18th century. The Line is organized to promote a better knowledge and understanding among its member units and the general public of that period in the history of the United States during which our nation won its independence from Great Britain.

Article III. – Membership in the Organization

Section 1 – Granting Membership

Membership in the organization is not open to individuals but rather to those recreated units detailed in Article II. There shall be only one class of membership namely, full member. The procedure for attaining membership is as follows: A unit desiring membership shall contact a member unit of the same branch of service impression already in The Line to request their sponsorship. Same branch of service impression is here defined as: artillery sponsor of artillery, infantry sponsor of infantry, horse troop sponsor of horse troop, etc. If the Applicant has multiple impressions, then a sponsor of each like impression is required. The sponsoring unit will then invite the “applicant” unit to the Line field events for each year. At these events, the applicant unit will field with, or under the direction of the sponsoring unit or another full member unit designated by the sponsor, and be observed as to their safety, authenticity and cooperation. At the next annual meeting of The Line, the sponsoring unit may make a motion that the applicant unit be accepted for membership. A simple majority of the votes cast by the units at the annual meeting shall be sufficient to grant membership. It shall be required that at least one member of the applicant unit be present at the annual meeting at which their unit is to be voted upon so as to represent their unit. This representative however, shall not be present in the meeting room when the vote is taken. In the event that no member of the application unit is in attendance at this meeting, the unit may maintain its applicant status for one more year. If no member of the applicant unit attends the next annual meeting, the unit will lose its applicant status and not be considered for full membership at this meeting.

Section 2 – Liability Insurance

A. It is a requirement that all member units of The Line carry liability insurance. This being the case, any unit desiring to apply for membership and to attend Line events, must show evidence of liability insurance. It shall be the responsibility of the sponsoring unit to verify that the applicant unit has insurance. This requirement shall also apply to any “guest” units, which may be invited to attend a Line event.

B. All Member Units and Applicant Units are required to provide proof of insurance to their respective Department Coordinators and the Adjutant once a year. Any Member Unit that has not provided such proof by a period of sixty (60) days from the date of their current policy expiration, without good cause, shall no longer be a Member Unit of the Continental Line. Such a Unit may reapply for membership under Article 3 Section 1 – Granting Membership detailed in these by-laws. Any Applicant Unit that does not provide such proof of insurance by a period of sixty (60) days from the expiration of their current original policy will not be eligible to be voted on for full membership status during the current year, but may reapply for membership the following year under Article 3 Section 1 – Granting Membership.

Section 3 – Revoking Membership

In the event that a member unit creates a safety problem, an authenticity problem or any other type of problem at a field event, the host unit shall deal with the problem directly with the offending unit. In the case of an individual member of a member unit being the cause of the problem, the host unit shall simply contact the unit’s commanding officer, and that officer shall be responsible for correcting the problem. If a member unit continually causes problems, then any member unit of The Line shall be able to make a motion at the next annual meeting that the offending unit’s membership in The Line be revoked. Following the appropriate open discussion, membership may be revoked and the offending unit expelled from The Line by a simple majority of the votes cast by the member units. An expelled unit shall lose all privileges associated with membership in The Line to include the right to vote and the right to attend Line events.

Section 4 – Alternate Branch of Service Impression of Full Member.

Full member units that wish to add an additional branch of service impression will follow the procedure as an Applicant of that impression as defined in Article III, Section 1, applying for the secondary impression under the sponsorship of a Full Member unit of the like impression at the Annual Meeting.

Article IV – Annual Meeting

Section 1 – Time and Place

The annual meeting shall be held at a time and place to be determined by the Chairman.

Section 2 – Voting

Any individual member of any member unit shall be entitled to speak and/or offer a motion at the annual meeting but each member unit shall have only one (1) vote which shall be cast by the unit commander or his/her designated representative. Member units not able to attend the annual meeting may vote on any proposal presented at said meeting by registering their proxy with their respective Department Coordinator. To facilitate this process, any proposal to be voted upon will be pre-published to all member units either through the organization's Journal or by other written and/or electronic means.

Section 3 – Robert's Rules of Order

The rules contained in the current edition of Robert's Rules of Orders shall govern The Line in all cases to which they are applicable and in which they are not inconsistent with these bylaws.

Section 4 – Quorum

A quorum shall consist of a minimum of 25% plus one (1) of all member units. Said quorum shall be required for the conduct of business at the annual meeting.

Article V – Board of Directors

Section 1 – Composition of the Board of Directors

The Board of Directors of The Line shall consist of the Chairman, the Adjutant, the Treasurer, the Department Coordinator for each Department within The Line, and the immediate Past Chairman of The Line.

Section 2 – Election

A. The Chairman, Adjutant and Treasurer shall be elected at the annual meeting by a simple majority of the votes cast by the member units. The Department Coordinators shall be elected by the member units of their respective department at a time and place determined by that department.

B. The nominees for Chairman shall be selected by a simple majority of the votes cast by the full member units on a rotating basis within each Department of The Line. Should the Department entitled to vote nominate more than one candidate, the Chairman shall be elected at the annual meeting from among the individuals nominated by the Department. Should the Department fail to nominate a candidate, or the candidate(s) so nominated fail to receive a simple majority of the votes cast by the full member units at the annual meeting, the Chairman shall be elected from any individual

present at the annual meeting who is a member in good standing of a full member unit of The Line.

Section 3 – Terms of Office

The Chairman, Adjutant and Treasurer shall be elected for a two (2) Year term. Election of the Chairman shall take place during even numbered years and the election of the Adjutant and Treasurer shall take place during odd numbered years. Department Coordinators shall be elected for a one (1) year term.

Section 4 – Duties of the Officers and Directors

Chairman: The Chairman shall be the Chief Executive office of the Corporation and shall have general supervision, except as hereinafter specifically set forth, over the activities of the Corporation. The Chairman shall also preside over the meetings of The Line.

Adjutant: The Adjutant shall perform the duties of the Chairman in his/her absence and such other duties as may from time to time be assigned to him/her by the membership or by the Chairman. He/she shall also attend all meetings of The Line and shall record the minutes of same in a book or books to be kept for that purpose. He/she shall see that notices are given and records maintained.

Treasurer: The Treasurer shall take charge of the monies and other properties of the corporation and shall keep a true and perfect record of the same.

Department Coordinator(s): Each Department Coordinator shall exercise the general supervision of his/her department. He/she shall also act as liaison between the department and The Line and shall report all activities of his/her department to the Board of Directors.

Past Chairman: The immediate Past Chairman of The Line shall serve as an advisor to the current Board of Directors and shall also perform such other duties as may be assigned by the current Chairman.

Section 5 – Vacancy

Any vacancy occurring in the Board of Directors shall be filled by a majority vote of the remaining members of the Board of Directors with the exception of a vacancy in the office of Department Coordinator. A vacancy which may occur in the office of Department Coordinator, shall be filled by a majority of the votes cast by the member units of the respective department. Any individual chosen to fill a vacancy under this Section, with the exception of the office of Department Coordinator, shall serve until the next annual meeting of The Line when a regular election is held. Any individual chosen to fill the office of Department Coordinator shall serve until the next election held by the member units of the respective department.

Article VI – Other Powers

Any powers or rights not specifically granted to the Board of Directors by these bylaws shall be retained by the member units within their respective departments.

Article VII – Amendments

These bylaws may only be amended by a two-thirds (2/3) majority of the votes cast by the full member units, due notice of said vote having been given.

Article VIII – Dissolution

In the event of the dissolution of The Line, all monies in the treasury, following payment of all liabilities, shall be donated to the Valley Forge National Historical Park, for use in maintaining the Neumann Collection.