ARTICLE 6.

DISTRICT DIRECTORS

Current Bylaw:

Section 2. Elections

a. Candidate nominations will open the first day of February and close the first day of March of election years.

Proposed Bylaw Amendment:

Section 2. Elections

a. Candidate nominations will open the first day of February and close the first day of March of election years. Election years will be staggered as follows: District One (1) 2025; District Two (2) 2025; District Three (3) 2026; and District Four (4) 2026.

Proposed Bylaw Amendment Rationale:

To stagger District Director terms of office.

ARTICLE 9.

CONVENTION

Current Bylaw:

ARTICLE 9. CONVENTION

Proposed Bylaw Amendment:

ARTICLE 9. MEETINGS

Proposed Bylaw Amendment Rationale:

To adjust verbiage allowing annual membership meetings and biennial conventions.
Current Bylaw:
Section 1.
There shall be held annually a meeting for the members to be known as the convention.

Proposed Bylaw Amendment:
Section 1.
There shall be held annually a meeting for the members.

Proposed Bylaw Amendment Rationale:
To adjust verbiage allowing annual membership meetings and biennial conventions.

Current Bylaw:
Section 2.
Every member shall be eligible to attend and participate in all meetings of the convention and shall be entitled to one (1) vote when present at meetings, or by proxy when absent.

a. If not present or voting by proxy, the vote of the member shall be cast by their elected delegate, if any; the proxy must be a member.

b. The official headquarters proxy form shall be the only proxy form recognized.

c. Proxy forms must be accepted and validated by headquarters to be counted.

Proposed Bylaw Amendment:
Section 2.
Every member shall be eligible to attend and participate in all meetings and shall be entitled to one (1) vote when present at meetings, or by proxy when absent.

a. If not present or voting by proxy, the vote of the member shall be cast by their elected delegate, if any; the proxy must be a member.

b. The official headquarters proxy form shall be the only proxy form recognized.

c. Proxy forms must be accepted and validated by headquarters to be counted.

Proposed Bylaw Amendment Rationale:
To adjust verbiage allowing annual membership meetings and biennial conventions.

Current Bylaw:

Section 3.

The convention letter shall be considered the official notice of the convention, and shall be posted online and/or distributed via electronic and/or paper means, no earlier than one hundred (100) days nor later than seventy-five (75) days before the date of the convention. Such notice shall contain the name of the city, the address, the dates, and an explanation of member voting options.

Proposed Bylaw Amendment:

Section 3.

The meeting letter shall be considered the official notice, and shall be posted online and/or distributed via electronic and/or paper means, no earlier than one hundred (100) days nor later than seventy-five (75) days before the date of the meeting. Such notice shall contain the name of the city, the address, the dates, and an explanation of member voting options.

Proposed Bylaw Amendment Rationale:

To adjust verbiage allowing annual membership meetings and biennial conventions.

Current Bylaw:

Section 4.

At convention, fifty percent (50%) of registered and present members, representing at least two (2) districts, shall constitute a quorum.

Proposed Bylaw Amendment:

Section 4.

At meetings, fifty percent (50%) of registered and present members, representing at least two (2) districts, shall constitute a quorum.

Proposed Bylaw Amendment Rationale:

To adjust verbiage allowing annual membership meetings and biennial conventions.
Current Bylaw:

Section 5.

In the absence of a quorum, the convention shall have no authority and may transact no business except to adjourn from hour to hour, or from day to day, or to a day certain.

Proposed Bylaw Amendment:

Section 5.

In the absence of a quorum, the meeting shall have no authority and may transact no business except to adjourn from hour to hour, or from day to day, or to a day certain.

Proposed Bylaw Amendment Rationale:

To adjust verbiage allowing annual membership meetings and biennial conventions.

Current Bylaw:

Section 6.

Every regional group (group) shall elect a member from its group as its official delegate to the convention; and such official delegate shall be entitled to cast one (1) vote for each member of their group, not including members present and voting, or voting by proxy.

Proposed Bylaw Amendment:

Section 6.

Every regional group (group) shall elect a member from its group as its official delegate to the meeting; and such official delegate shall be entitled to cast one (1) vote for each member of their group, not including members present and voting, or voting by proxy.

Proposed Bylaw Amendment Rationale:

To adjust verbiage allowing annual membership meetings and biennial conventions.

Current Bylaw:

Section 7.
The regular order of convention business shall be as follows:

a. Invocation
b. Pledge of Allegiance
c. Addresses of Welcome and Response
d. Report of the Rules Committee
e. Report of the Credentials Committee
f. Roll Call
g. Minutes of the Preceding Convention
h. Report of the Officers and Board of Directors
i. Submission of Resolutions
j. Nomination of Officers*
k. Report of the Resolutions Committee
l. Unfinished Business
m. New Business
n. Election of Officers*
o. Installation of Officers*
p. Adjournment

*Nomination, election, and installation of officers occur biannually. Additionally, the order of business may be changed by a majority vote of the members present on a motion to suspend rules.

Proposed Bylaw Amendment:

Section 7.
The regular order of business shall be as follows:
a. Invocation
b. Pledge of Allegiance
c. Addresses of Welcome and Response
d. Report of the Rules Committee
e. Report of the Credentials Committee
f. Roll Call
g. Minutes of the Preceding Meeting
h. Report of the Officers and Board of Directors
i. Submission of Resolutions*
j. Nomination of Officers*
k. Report of the Resolutions Committee*
l. Unfinished Business
m. New Business
n. Election of Officers*
o. Installation of Officers*
p. Adjournment

*Resolutions, nominations, elections, and installation of officers occur biennially. Additionally, the order of business may be changed by a majority vote of the members present on a motion to suspend rules.

Proposed Bylaw Amendment Rationale:

To adjust verbiage allowing annual membership meetings and biennial conventions.

Current Bylaw:

Section 8.

The board shall select the time and place of the next succeeding convention, and it shall not change the time and place of the convention except for good cause. Good cause is hereby defined as a catastrophe making it impractical to hold the convention in the recommended city; the inability of the city to provide adequate housing at reasonable rates; or such other emergencies as may be deemed adequate.

Proposed Bylaw Amendment:

Section 8.
The board shall select the time and place of the next succeeding meeting, and it shall not change the time and place of the meeting except for good cause. Good cause is hereby defined as a catastrophe making it impractical to hold the meeting in the recommended city; the inability of the city to provide adequate housing at reasonable rates; or such other emergencies as may be deemed adequate.

Proposed Bylaw Amendment Rationale:
To adjust verbiage allowing annual membership meetings and biennial conventions.

ARTICLE 10.
DUES

Current Bylaw:
Life membership dues of fifty dollars ($50.00) shall be paid to the Association, with fifty percent (50%) allocated to the life membership fund and fifty percent (50%) allocated to the general fund.

Proposed Bylaw Amendment:
Dues shall be established by the Board of Directors. The Board of Directors has established there will be no dues.

Proposed Bylaw Amendment Rationale:
After multiple efforts to increase membership, this would allow the Board of Directors to test a free membership model, designed to empower the regional groups with increased member participation and apportionment revenue, while growing our national membership body.

ARTICLE 17.
AUXILIARY

Current Bylaw:
Section 1.
An auxiliary to the Association may be established, such to be known as the Blinded Veterans Association Auxiliary.

Section 2.
Membership in the auxiliary shall consist of family members, friends, and caregivers of Association members.
Section 3.

The auxiliary shall adopt bylaws for its governance and control which shall not be effective unless or until approved by the Association board.

Section 4.

The actions of the auxiliary, to include publicity, shall not conflict with the bylaws, policies, or resolutions of the Association.

Proposed Bylaw Amendment:
Delete Article 17 in its entirety.
Article 18 becomes Article 17
Article 19 becomes Article 18
Article 20 becomes Article 19
Article 21 becomes Article 20

Proposed Bylaw Amendment Rationale:
The Blinded Veterans Association National Board of Directors formally voted to dissociate the Auxiliary on May 17, 2023.